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Country programme document

Plurinational State of Bolivia

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Bolivia is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of $8,425,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $35,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2018 to 2022.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2017.

* E/ICEF/2017/14

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Programme rationale

1. The Plurinational State of Bolivia (hereafter "Bolivia") is one of the world's most culturally diverse countries. Some 42 per cent of its 10.6 million people are indigenous, divided into 37 nations. The country is home to 3.8 million children, the majority (66 per cent) living in cities.[1]

2. Bolivia has achieved extraordinary economic and social improvements during the last 10 years, due to a favourable international context coupled with prudent macroeconomic management. The gross domestic product grew at an average rate of 5 per cent between 2006 and 2015, reaching 6.8 per cent in 2013. This significant economic growth brought Bolivia to being a lower-middle-income country in 2015.

3. Increased investments resulted in significant progress in social development. The implementation of redistributive social protection policies such as the *Bono Juancito Pinto* (education) and *Bono Juana Azurduy* (maternal and child health) have improved the situation of some populations. Extreme poverty has fallen by 21 percentage points (from 38 per cent in 2006 to 17 per cent in 2014), a decrease of 1.7 million people. At the same time, the gap between the richest and the poorest was reduced.

4. Despite positive socioeconomic trends, 43 per cent of children continue to live in conditions of multidimensional poverty. Moreover, economic analysis has shown that the country's economy has been stagnating in the last two years, leading the Government to increase its public debt. This is likely to affect the availability of resources for social programmes within the Government's development framework for the long and medium term (the Patriotic Agenda 2025 and the 2016–2020 Economic and Social Development Plan), triggering possible cutbacks in efforts to reduce poverty and inequities, particularly for marginalized indigenous populations.

5. Bolivia is also experiencing rapid urbanization and migration of indigenous peoples to the cities. Its four biggest cities are home to almost half of the total population. These trends are resulting in unplanned settlements, poor infrastructures, land degradation and pollution, as well as increased pressure on fresh water supplies and elevated risks of insecurity and vulnerability to all forms of violence. They are also likely to result in large rural areas or even entire municipalities being depopulated and defunded for essential services, putting children and adolescents at risk.

6. Several challenges affect the chances for children to survive and thrive in their early childhood. Maternal mortality is still among the highest in the region (160 per 100,000 live births, of which 68 per cent occur among the indigenous).[2] Infant mortality has been reduced (44 per 1,000 live births)[3] and there has been a significant decrease in malnutrition, yet 18 per cent of children under 5 are chronically malnourished, with great disparities showing between indigenous and non-indigenous populations.[4] Open defecation shows a rate of 44 per cent in the rural population,[5] which also suffers from poor access (20 per

[1] Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE), *Censo Nacional de Población y Vivienda*, 2012.
[2] Ministerio de Salud, *Estudio Nacional de Mortalidad maternal 2011*, 2016.
[3] Unidad de Análisis de Políticas Sociales y Económicas (UDAPE), *Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio en Bolivia. Octavo Informe de Progreso*, 2015.
[4] UDAPE y Ministerio de Salud, *Encuesta de Evaluación de Salud y Nutrición 2012. Informe de Resultados*, 2012.
[5] UDAPE, *Análisis de Progresos en el Acceso a Fuentes Mejoradas de Agua y a Instalaciones Mejoradas de Saneamiento*, Oct 2016.

cent) to quality water, still drinking surface water.[6] Some 22 per cent of children below age 1 lack birth registration,[7] and fewer than half of children aged 4–5 have access to early childhood services.[8] In addition, only 30 per cent of mothers and 15 per cent of fathers are involved in activities that stimulate the development of their child.[9]

7. While the country has made important progress in education, almost reaching universal access to primary education, adolescents still face difficulties in accessing and completing secondary school. Around 151,000 adolescents are out of school,[10] and 4 out of 10 do not complete secondary education.[11] In 2012, in rural areas, 18 per cent of adolescents aged 12–17 in rural areas were out of school, in comparison to 8 per cent in urban areas.[12] In addition, the country has not enough tools and parameters to measure the quality of education, including learning outcomes and the performance of students and teachers. Even though more girls than boys complete school (the difference is 6.4 per cent in secondary education[13]), this does not necessarily result in better opportunities later in life.

8. Bolivia faces considerable challenges to delegitimize and eradicate violence against children (VAC) and to overcome widespread gender inequality and gender-based violence (GBV), two pressing issues. Some 10 per cent of women have been victims of sexual abuse at some point in their lives, many of them during their adolescent years. Discipline through violence is still common: in one study, 71 per cent of women and 68 per cent of men reported that they agree with at least one reason that justifies corporal punishment.[14]

9. More than 8,000 children and adolescents live in institutional care, although 80 per cent have a family.[15] Institutional capacity and inter-institutional coordination are too weak to ensure family reintegration or alternative care solutions. Consequently, most children living in institutions remain there until adulthood.

10. Although the Child and Adolescent Code has a progressive juvenile justice dimension, adolescents face lengthy procedures and pretrial detention, and restorative measures are used infrequently. Out of the adolescents judged by the Children and Adolescents Court in 2013, 582 were held in adult prisons and 650 in specialized centres.[16] Of those held in prisons, 97 per cent were under preventive detention awaiting their sentence. In 2014, more than 900 children were living in prisons with their parents, despite not having committed crimes.[17]

11. Bolivia is vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change, especially severe droughts and floods that dramatically impact the lives of already-vulnerable populations,

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[6] UNICEF and World Health Organization. *Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water — 2015 Assessment and MDG update*. 2015.
[7] INE, *Censo Nacional*, 2012.
[8] INE, *Características Educativas de Bolivia, Censos 1976, 1992, 2001 y 2012*.
[9] UNICEF, *Encuestas Municipales de Desarrollo Infantil 2014–2015*, 2015.
[10] Estimate based on 2012 census.
[11] UDAPE, *Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio en Bolivia. Séptimo informe de progreso*, 2013.
[12] INE, 2012.
[13] UDAPE, 2015.
[14] INE y Ministerio de Salud, 2008.
[15] Ministerio de Justicia, *Estudio sobre Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes en cuidado institucional*, 2014.
[16] Ministerio de Justicia and UNICEF, *Adolescentes a la espera de una nueva oportunidad: Diagnóstico de las y los adolescentes en conflicto con la ley*, 2013.
[17] Defensoría del Pueblo and UNICEF, *Diagnóstico Nacional de niños, niñas y adolescentes viviendo con sus padres y madres en Centros Penitenciarios de Bolivia*, 2014.

including children. Between 2002 and 2012, 84 per cent of municipalities were affected by flooding and 67 per cent by drought.[18] In 2016 in La Paz, severe water rationing and almost-dried-out water reserves affected more than 800,000 people.

12. Public institutions at central and decentralized levels still face capacity gaps in human resources, institutional, programme and budgetary management, and insufficient statistics and systems for monitoring results, making it difficult for national policies to engender equitable results for children. Social norms, gender dynamics, poverty, and limited support for parents and families hinder the full adoption of caring family practices around health, nutrition, education and protection of children. Of great concern are the pending fourth and fifth State reports on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which were due in 2014.

13. Lessons learned from the 2013–2017 country programme show that it is necessary to balance its approach at national and subnational levels. Working at national level is still fundamental for contributing to changes that can maximize the reach for children in the whole country. Meanwhile, the enhanced work at subnational level has demonstrated the importance of these spaces for the translation of public policies and investment into concrete results for children. It is also clear that results could have been more substantial if an interlinked and integrated approach to programming was applied in better-defined geographical areas, targeting fewer critical issues that affect the most vulnerable children.

14. For the 2018–2022 CPD, UNICEF will continue to provide support and advocate at national level in terms of improving child rights monitoring, fostering innovation, and strengthening public policies and financing for children, aiming to support the Government to take cost-effective interventions to scale. At the subnational level, the programme will converge programme interventions in four selected departments to foster intersectoral collaboration and programming.

Programme priorities and partnerships

15. The overall goal of the programme is to support the Government in narrowing inequality gaps, with special consideration of indigenous peoples, and positioning children and adolescents as a foundation for the country's sustainable development.

16. The country programme priorities respond to the Situation Analysis of children and adolescents in Bolivia, the results of the 2016 Gender Programmatic Review, and various normative frameworks, particularly the Child and Adolescent Code, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It contributes to the Government's long- and midterm development framework, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021. The Programme directly contributes to the five outcomes of the 2018–2022 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). In line with the mandate of UNICEF, the country programme will contribute to the implementation of the Gender Action Plan.

17. UNICEF will consolidate existing, and create new, strategic partnerships with stakeholders within and outside the Government at both national and subnational levels to increase the reach and value of public policies for children. Cooperation with other United

[18] Data made available by the Vice Ministerio de Defensa Civil, 2014.

Nations agencies will help produce results for children in an effective and an efficient manner.

18. UNICEF's approach can be summarized in three elements. First, it will support policy and budgeting changes to create an enabling environment for children. Second, it will strengthen the availability of quality equitable services for children, adolescents and families, enhancing intersectoral coordination. Third, it will promote family care and protective practices as well as increase public awareness on children's rights and the importance of positioning children at the core of the national development agenda.

19. The Bolivia–UNICEF country programme 2018–2022 is structured around the four outcome areas described below. The programme adopts a two-pronged approach to programming: delivering sector-specific results as well as contributing to other results areas through an intersectoral approach.

Every child survives and thrives

20. The first programme component focuses on contributing to guaranteeing Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD) for all children in Bolivia, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 4 and related results in the national development.

21. The Theory of Change (ToC) that guides this component is that young children below age 5 will have improved their chances to survive and thrive on the following conditions: if the country develops and implements an IECD policy and institutional framework that creates cooperation among sectors and efficiently allocates resources for implementing IECD at scale; if basic social services (child and maternal health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), early education, child protection and social inclusion) are accessible and of quality to care for, respond to and manage the needs and rights of the youngest children in an integrated way; and if parents and caregivers are aware and engaged in the early development of their children. Along this line, UNICEF is committed to supporting the Government in creating a multisectoral and holistic approach to IECD, with a special focus on the needs of the most vulnerable children.

22. This component will be implemented through a two-pronged approach: (a) support to the implementation of established sector policies and programmes promoting cost-effective interventions and intersectoral collaboration in favour of integrated ECD; and (b) design of an integrated demonstrative model for integrated ECD, which will be implemented in selected municipalities, to be evaluated and, if successful, scaled up at departmental and national levels. The model includes combined interventions on health, including enhancing the following areas: the quality of maternal and child services; nutrition related to adequate feeding practices; WASH to improve quality access to sustainable basic and safely managed water and sanitation services; child protection to improve birth registration services and prevent violence and abandonment of young children; early learning for increasing parents' knowledge on ECD and their demand for quality early learning opportunities; and social inclusion, including by advocating for and supporting the development of an IECD policy, monitoring budgetary investments in ECD, and advocating for more efficient use of funds.

23. This programme component will interact with the other components in constructing baselines, generating evidence, using data, and monitoring results. This linkage among components will be enhanced by an overarching communication for development approach part of covering the entire country programme. The component will promote gender-

informed programming and aimed specifically at changing gender stereotypes in parenting and ECD.

Every child learns

24. This component focuses on supporting the Government to guarantee that children and adolescents have the opportunity to improve their learning outcomes and complete their secondary education in flexible, innovative and safe learning environments. It is in line with Sustainable Development Goal 4 and related results of the national development plan.

25. The ToC for this component is that adolescents will be able to conclude their secondary education with adequate learning outcomes that will promote their development and help them to reach their full potential if the following conditions are met: the country is able to monitor, evaluate and create standards for quality of education; all adolescents, particularly the most disadvantaged, have access to quality and life-relevant education opportunities; the education system implements mechanisms to prevent VAC and exclusion; and families and children are empowered and take on the roles as agents of change in decision-making processes regarding education management. This ToC is premised on the development and implementation of a systematic approach to overcome the critical barriers that hamper the development of children and adolescents, such as malnutrition, disabilities, GBV, adolescent pregnancy, child labour, inadequate WASH and lack of opportunities for adolescents' participation.

26. UNICEF will foster changes in the educational system by advocating with and supporting the Government to develop flexible forms of education that reach adolescents in various settings at decentralized levels such as the Amazon, rural and peri-urban areas. At the same time, UNICEF will promote and provide support for changes in the curricula so that they are more culturally appropriate, address gender norms and inequality, and are used as a tool to discuss largely taboo topics such as VAC, early pregnancy and sexual behaviour, and menstrual hygiene management, among others.

27. This component takes into consideration that the educational system is key to prevent, detect and address VAC and exclusion. It will help to foster an environment where children and adolescents feel safe, and where child protection issues are incorporated into the curriculum and extracurricular activities. Teachers and school staff should be able to detect if students are exposed to violence, and to access mechanisms to prevent and support children and adolescents to respond to VAC.

28. A combination of strategies – particularly evidence-based advocacy and policy dialogue, cross-sectoral and gender-informed programming, capacity development bridging the humanitarian divide, empowerment of adolescents as agents of change, C4D and partnerships – will be employed in this programme component. The component promotes the need for gender-informed programming aiming at empowering adolescent girls, and working with boys to challenge gender norms through participation in decision- making processes and life-skills promotion.

Every child is protected from violence and exploitation

29. This component focuses on strengthening a protective environment where boys and girls are free from violence, exploitation, and unnecessary separation from their family and community, where they can be reintegrated in society, where those who need have access to alternative care, and where laws, services, behaviours and practices minimize children's

vulnerability, reduce risk factors, and strengthen children's own resilience, including in emergency situations. It is in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 16 and related results of the national development plan.

30. The ToC for this programme component is that children and adolescents will be able to grow up free from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, including in emergency situations if the following conditions are met: adequate resources are allocated to fund the implementation of the child protection system in accordance with the Child and Adolescent Code; Bolivia has an effective child-friendly justice system, including access to specialized child protection services and prevention programmes; and families, communities and children themselves have knowledge about VAC/GBV and its negative consequences for a child's well-being and development, about how they can prevent it, and the conditions to seek support.

31. At the national level, UNICEF will work towards designing and implementing formal training on child protection interventions such as administration of protocols, attention, and referral mechanisms. At the department and municipal levels, UNICEF will work with different institutions to strengthen capacities for efficient coordination of reporting and referral, prosecution of perpetrators and provision of specialized attention to child victims of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, with special attention to sexual violence. UNICEF will work towards improving monitoring capacity and will foster cooperation among various stakeholders for the development of intersectoral interventions. In terms of rights-holders, UNICEF will support children and adolescents as agents of change, by empowering them in topics related to violence, and consequently, strengthening their own skills to prevent violence and demand their rights.

32. It is expected that the interventions supported by UNICEF will facilitate coordination between relevant stakeholders and sectors, mainly between health, education, justice and specialized child protection services to better prevent and respond to VAC. The cross-sectoral approach will be operationalized by the design and implementation of tools, reporting and referral mechanisms in the health and educational systems, including at the community level. Moreover, support will be provided for the development of specific studies to cost and analyse the possibility of implementing alternative measures to better protect children from violence.

33. Working both with duty-bearers as well as rights-holders, UNICEF's main strategies for this component will focus on the strengthening of (a) institutions and social service providers by developing an integrated child protection response, including childcare reform, justice for children and child rights monitoring, and (b) families and children's knowledge and skills to reduce, prevent and report cases of violence, neglect and exploitation. In addition, new partnerships with academia will be developed and alliances with the private sector will be expanded, aiming to raise awareness on the importance of protecting children from violence. The component will also promote the need for gender-informed programming aimed at preventing and responding to GBV, with a focus on sexual violence, including in emergency situations, and on commercial sexual exploitation.

Every child has an equitable chance in life

34. This component aims to promote the universal agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals and ensure that key child rights issues are positioned within the new national development agenda at national and decentralized levels. Coordinating with and complementing the other components, this component will work with government and

other partners to generate an enabling political environment. Efforts will go towards strengthening the capacities of governmental institutions to manage public policies and monitor and analyse the situation of children. This includes poverty trends and socioeconomic and climate change risks in urban, rural and peri-urban settings. In addition, it will foster and leverage partnerships to support the cause of children among a multitude of stakeholders including decision makers and the wider public. Increasing the public outreach will allow for the creation of a movement for children that will help to influence public policies, fuel social engagement and drive the growth of public and private investment for sustainable changes for children.

35. The ToC for this programme component is that children and adolescents will grow up with better opportunities and be better protected from socioeconomic and climate change risks if the following conditions are met: the capacities of national and subnational governmental institutions are strengthened to include key child rights issues in public management, financing and monitoring as part of the national development planning system; there are adequate plans and policies, instruments and methodologies in place at national and subnational levels related to climate change adaptation and disaster risk management; and the public awareness, social mobilization and multi-stakeholder partnerships are strengthened to ensure the creation of a movement that actively promotes and advocates the realization of child rights.

36. The component will also work towards removing institutional bottlenecks and barriers – such as the shortfall of analytical tools and capacity gaps at different governmental levels in planning and in monitoring and evaluation – aiming to increase and improve public financing for children. The support will be based on the agreed methodology for identifying, measuring and reporting on child-focused public investment developed in the previous programme cycle.

37. The main strategies are to enhance government capacity at national and subnational levels to plan and design public policies addressing multiple deprivations and gender inequalities faced by children and their families across the life cycle. This will depend on the capacities in the collection, management and dissemination of data, and use of evidence-based analyses to monitor the situation of children. A strategic research and evaluation agenda will therefore generate evidence on vulnerable and excluded children and on emerging issues affecting child well-being, aiming to guide policy decisions. Emphasis will be placed on the effects of climate change and disasters on children.

38. Lastly, this component will foster and expand multi-stakeholder partnerships with the public and private sector, strengthening public awareness and engagement, including that of children and adolescents themselves, to guarantee that children and adolescents are positioned at the core of the national development agenda and enjoy public support and investment.

Programme effectiveness

39. This outcome will ensure efficient and effective programme management, enhance external relations and multi-stakeholder partnerships, institutional communication, monitoring and evaluation, strategic planning and gender mainstreaming. This outcome will support effective convergence and articulation of the various programme components around common results, such as the prevention and response to VAC, leveraging of partnerships and resources, risk-informed programming and emergency response, and

parenting and family care practices. Innovations for improved programme performance, particularly using information technology, will be developed and supported.

Summary budget table

Programme component	*(In thousands of United States dollars)*		
	Regular resources	*Other resources*	*Total*
Every child survives and thrives	2 106	10 850	12 956
Every child learns	1 264	5 250	6 514
Every child is protected from violence and exploitation	1 264	7 350	8 614
Every child has an equal chance in life	2 106	4 550	6 656
Programme effectiveness	1 685	7 000	8 685
Total	**8 425**	**35 000**	**43 425**

Programme and risk management

40. This CPD outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarter levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

41. The programme will work with the Government in the implementation of existing policies, finding cost-effective solutions to address key barriers and bottlenecks hampering the realization of children's rights It will also develop and support the scaling up at the national level of a demonstrative model for IECD implemented in selected municipalities and departments. Effective programme management will therefore depend on solid monitoring of the interventions at the local level through frequent programme visits and monitoring. The Harmonized approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) policy will be fully implemented.

42. The programme has been developed in close collaboration with the Government and is aligned with the priorities set out in the 2016–2020 Economic and Social Development Plan, including sector policies and programmes. UNICEF will work with United Nations agencies, together with the Government, to monitor and evaluate progress towards results, using the UNDAF coordination mechanisms. UNICEF will undertake regular monitoring and periodic programme reviews with the Government and other partners, aiming to identify and mitigate risks early on to ensure the achievement of results.

43. Among the external risks that could affect the UNICEF contribution to results and the overall situation of children is a slowdown in the country's economy. This could affect the sustainability of public policies on poverty reduction and on assisting vulnerable groups. To mitigate these risks, UNICEF will monitor the political and fiscal situation of the country and closely track government investments regarding children and adolescents. In case of possible reductions in these social budgets, UNICEF will use its influence and partnerships

to advocate for investing in children as an important means to achieve the national development goals and Sustainable Development Goals.

44. Another potential risk would be a lack of predictable minimum funding, the lack of which would impact achieving programme goals. To avoid this, UNICEF will strengthen partnerships with the private and public sectors to leverage resources for children.

Monitoring and evaluation

45. UNICEF will systematically monitor its contributions towards results as outlined in the programme's results and resource framework. Data on children will be regularly collected. To support surveys, UNICEF will collaborate with the Government and other United Nations agencies to facilitate data collection and reduce costs, making it possible for surveys to be administered and used more frequently and efficiently. Programmatic workplans, the Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, the costed evaluation plan and the HACT policy will define all actions to ensure adequate monitoring for achievement of programme results. UNICEF and the Government will also conduct reviews as appropriate to assess progress and make programme adjustments in alignment with the Government's annual planning process.

46. In partnership with other United Nations agencies and as part of the UNDAF monitoring framework, UNICEF will work with relevant ministries to develop and/or strengthen data-collection capacity to help to ensure that the country produces, make available and utilizes high-quality data on children and adolescents.

47. Evaluations are part of the learning mechanism that the country office will strengthen internally. UNICEF plans to directly commission three evaluations and will work with different actors to ensure that other evaluations take children into consideration, are independent, and make recommendations that can be used to improve policies and programmes in the country.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Plurinational State of Bolivia – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2018–2022

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 1–8, 9, 12–17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27–32, 34, 36, 39, 40, 42 and 44
Sustainable Development Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13, 16, and 17
National priorities: The Patriotic Agenda 2025 and the Economic and Social Development Plan 2016–2022: Pillars 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12
The Plurinational Plan for Children and Adolescents, Child and Adolescent Code, and key sector plans

UNDAF outcomes involving UNICEF:
Outcome 1, Outcome 2, Outcome 3, Outcome 4.1, Outcome 4.2
Outcome indicators measuring change that includes UNICEF contribution:
Outcome 1, Outcome 2, Outcome 3, Outcome 4.1, Outcome 4.2

Related draft UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 Goal Areas:[1] 1. Every Child Survives and Thrives; 2. Every Child Learns; 3. Every Child is Protected from Violence and Exploitation; 4. Every Child Lives in a safe and Clean Environment and 5. Every Child has an Equitable Chance in Life.

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (in thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
1. By 2022, children between 0 and 5 have access to Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD) services to guarantee that they survive and thrive, including in emergency situations	% of children under five who are adequately developed according to their age. Baseline (2016): 37% Target: 50%	SNIS (National Health Information System)	**Output 1.1:** The Government has increased capacity to design an integrated early childhood development policy and institutional framework to take interventions to scale **Output 1.2:** Integrated Functional Health Services' Networks in four departments and health districts deliver quality and integrated maternal and child health, nutrition	Ministries of Health, Education, Environment and Water, Justice, the National and Departmental Assemblies, Autonomous departmental and municipal Governments, UN agencies and	2 106	10 850	12 956
	% of children under one year who are timely registered. Baseline (2012): National: 70%; Rural: 67%; Urban: 75% Target: National: 88%; Rural: 75%; Urban: 90%	Household Survey, census, SERECI annual reports					

[1] The final version will be presented to the UNICEF Executive Board for approval at its second regular session of 2017.

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR); other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
	Prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding among infants aged 0-5 months Baseline (2012): 85.1% Target: 90%	ENSMI (Health and Nutrition Evaluation); DHS	and birth registration services. **Output 1.3:** National and subnational capacities in four departments are strengthened to develop and monitor integrated and resilient water, sanitation and hygiene services **Output 1.4:** Education institutions in four departments provide quality early learning opportunities to children under five years of age **Output 1.5:** Parents, caregivers and community representatives in four departments apply knowledge and skills to care for, respond and manage the needs of children under five years.	financial institutions (UNFPA, WHO, FAO, WB, IADB, CAF), civil society organizations (CSO), academia and private sector			
	% of people using basic water facilities (improved water sources) in rural areas Baseline (2014): National: 72%; La Paz: 76%; Cochabamba: 76%; Santa Cruz: 91%; Pando: 47% Target: National: 80%; La Paz: 80%; Cochabamba: 80%; Santa Cruz: 95%; Pando: 55%	UDAPE					
	% of people using basic sanitation (improved sanitation facilities) in rural areas Baseline (2014): National: 32%; La Paz: 27%; Cochabamba: 37%; Santa Cruz: 50%; Pando: 40% Target: National: 60%; La Paz: 60%; Cochabamba: 60%; Santa Cruz: 60%; Pando: 60%	UDAPE					
	% of children who are enrolled in pre-primary education Baseline (2012): 65.5% Target: 80%	SIE (National Education Information System)					
2. By 2022, children and adolescents, especially the most disadvantaged, have increased access to,	Secondary education completion rate Baseline (2012): 27% Target: 35%	SIE UDAPE	**Output 2.1:** National and subnational institutions responsible for education, have increased capacity to design and implement	Ministries of: Education, Justice, Health, Environment and Water, the	1 264	5 250	6 514

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome, regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (in thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
learning and completion of quality education services, including in emergency situations	Primary education completion rate Baseline (2012): 55.5% Target: 70%	SIE UDAPE	policies, standards, and a monitoring and supporting system to ensure quality education **Output 2.2:** The education system, particularly in four departments, have increased capacity to planning, monitoring and evaluate innovative and flexible learning modalities for adolescents **Output 2.3:** The education system in four departments, have increased capacity for preventing, detecting, reporting and referring cases of violence **Output 2.4:** Families, community representatives, children and adolescents engage in education management committees, and influence the design and delivery of quality education services in eight municipalities/school districts	Plurinational Observatory for Quality Education (OPCE), the Plurinational Institute of Language and Culture Studies (IPELC), Autonomous Departmental and Municipal Governments, National and Departmental Assemblies, UN agencies and financial institutions, academia and private sector			
	Proportion of children in primary and in secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics Baseline: NA Target: #% of increase	MoE Standardized tests					
3. By 2022, children and adolescents victims of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation are protected by functioning systems, policies and a national legal framework aligned with international standards, including in emergency situations	% of girls and woman who are victims of sexual violence Baseline (2008[2]): 15 – 19 National: 5.2%, 15 – 49 National: 6.4%, La Paz 5.5%, Pando: 7.8%, Santa Cruz: 5.9%, Cochabamba: 7.5% Target: 15 – 19: National 5.5%, 15 – 49: La Paz: 5%, Pando: 7%,	DHS	**Output 3.1:** Specialised child protection services, particularly in four departments, have increased resources for the prevention and response to violence against children **Output 3.2:** Children and adolescents in four departments and municipalities have increased access to a child friendly justice	The Ministries of Justice, Labor and Social Prevision, Home Affairs, the Supreme Court of Justice and District Courts of Justice, the Supreme Electoral Tribune, the Prosecutor's Office, the Ombudsperson	1 264	7 350	8 614

[2] New baselines are underway with the new DHS 2016

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR); other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
	Santa Cruz: 5.5%, Cochabamba: 7%		system and specialized child protection services in accordance with the national legal framework **Output 3.3:** Communities, families, adolescents and children in eight municipalities develop skills to reduce, prevent and report cases of violence, neglect and exploitation	Office, the School of Public Management, Autonomous Departmental and Municipal Governments, National and Departmental Assemblies, UN agencies, CSOs, academia and private sector			
	# of children under institutional care Baseline (2013 – 2014): National: 8,369, La Paz: 4,800, Cochabamba: 5,322 Target: National: 7,000, La Paz: 3,600, Cochabamba: 4,000	National Study on institutionalized children, Ministry of Justice, 2014 Ministry of Justice and Institutional Transparency SINNA –					
	# of children in conflict with the law Baseline: National: 1,672, La Paz: 368, Santa Cruz: 304, Cochabamba: 342 Target: National: 1,150, La Paz: 230, Santa Cruz: 175, Cochabamba: 200	StiAn on Adolescents in conflict with the law, MJTI, Departments of La Paz, Santa Cruz and Cochabamba official annual reports SINNA – National information system on children by 2021					
4. By 2022, children, especially the most disadvantaged, including those affected by climate change, are prioritized within the national development agenda	Public budget allocated to children and adolescents as a percentage of GDP Baseline (2015): 7.8 of GDP Target: 8.5%	MEF	**Output 4.1:** National and sub-national capacities in four departments are strengthened for the implementation of child- and equity focused policies, efficient and effective use of social investment and the monitoring and reporting on the situation of children **Output 4.2:** National and subnational capacities in four departments are strengthened in risk informed programing to protect children and adolescents from the impact of natural	The Ministries of Planning and Development, Economy and Finance, Environment and Water, Vice-Ministry for Civil Defense, the National Institute of Statistics UDAPE, Autonomous Departmental and Municipal Governments, The	2 106	4 550	6 656
	# of national and sub-national policies for risk management and adaptation to climate change that include actions in favour of children and adolescents Baseline (2017): NA Target: At least one administrative department developed and implements a	Official report from the selected department					

UNDAF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
	risk management policy that includes children		disasters and climate change **Output 4.3**: A multi-stakeholder movement actively promotes and advocates for fulfilment of child rights at national- and sub-national level in the selected departments	National and Departamental Assemblies, UN agencies and financial institutions CSOs, academia, the media and the private sector			
	# of civil society organisations and private companies that advocate for children's rights Baseline (2016): Mapping of the private sector's involvement in children's rights Target: 50 civil society organisations and 15 private companies advocate for children's rights	Signed agreements with CSO and private companies					
5. Programme Effectiveness					1 685	7 (88)	8 685
Total resources					**8 425**	**35 000**	**43 425**

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United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
Second regular session 2017
12-15 September 2017
Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Chile

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Chile is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of $4,250,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $10,600,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2018 to 2022.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2017.

* E/ICEF/2017/14

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Programme rationale

1. Chile has a population of approximately 18.1 million, and some 25 per cent are children.[1] A large number of children (12 per cent) belong to indigenous groups.[2] While Chile has universal birth registration, the Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2015 expressed concern because some children born in Chile to parents with irregular migrant status are denied birth registration. In 2014, a total of 411,000 migrants were registered as residents in the country and approximately 21 per cent of them were children.[3]

2. Chile is a high-income country that has seen sustained growth in gross domestic product per capita — 5 per cent between 1990 and 2015.[4] In 2010, it joined the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In 2015, Chile ranked 38 in the Human Development Index. The country has made good progress in child health and in education. In 2015, 0.5 per cent of under-five children were underweight and child mortality rate at 8 per 1,000 live births.[5] All births were attended by qualified personnel. The education system offers universal access at both primary and secondary levels and has a 95 per cent primary completion rate.[6]

3. While Chile is to be commended for reducing poverty, from 29 per cent to 12 per cent between 2006 and 2015[7] challenges remain in ensuring that no child is left behind during implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Significant inequalities persist, rendering Chile the most unequal country in the OECD.[8] Children are almost twice as likely as adults to be poor, as 23 per cent live in multidimensional poverty.[9] Some child population groups are at greater disadvantage than others. For example, 31 per cent of indigenous children and 34 per cent of migrant children live in multidimensional poverty, compared with 22 per cent and 23 per cent, respectively, of non-indigenous and non-migrant children.[10] Despite significant advances made in social protection policies and programmes, such as the Intersectoral System of Social Protection, bottlenecks remain in coverage. Though in 2015 there were 173,855 households in extreme poverty,[11] only 26 per cent of them received social protection benefits. Financial resources remain limited, and policies and preconditions for receiving benefits are rather restrictive.

4. Chile stands out for its commitment to early childhood development (ECD) and its flagship child protection system for vulnerable families, Chile Crece Contigo, one of two subsystems of its Intersectoral System of Social Protection. Yet, inclusion of children in ECD services also shows bottlenecks and barriers. For example, 78 per cent of children aged 4 and 5 of the bottom quintile attend preschool, compared with 89 per cent of those in the top quintile.[12] The prevalence of developmental delays also indicates disparities. Children in the lowest income decile are 5 times more likely to experience developmental

[1] National Statistics Institute, 2016.
[2] Ministry of Social Development, Encuesta de Caracterización Socioeconómica Nacional (CASEN), 2015.
[3] Immigration Department, 2014. The age range considers up to 19 years.
[4] World Bank, 2016.
[5] World Bank, 2015.
[6] Ibid.
[7] Ministry of Social Development, CASEN, 2015.
[8] World Bank, 2015.
[9] CASEN, 2015.
[10] Ibid.
[11] Ibid.
[12] Ibid.

delays than children living in the wealthiest decile.[13] More boys than girls show delays (7 per cent and 5 per cent, respectively), and more indigenous children than non-indigenous children (9 per cent and 6 per cent, respectively).[14] Additional barriers persist, largely because Chile lacks a family-centred policy that promotes an adequate standard of living and child development from the early years.

5. Despite its achievements in education, Chile experiences bottlenecks in access to quality education for all and in learning outcomes. A 2015 study showed that nearly half of 15-year-old students tested did not reach a basic level in the mathematics exam,[15] and in a national standardized mathematics test, 79 per cent did not achieve expected levels.[16] Social exclusion plays a role in this. Another 2015 study showed that students belonging to the highest-income quintiles obtained significantly higher scores on a regular basis than those from the poorest quintiles.[17]

6. Disparities also affect children with disabilities. Of the 6 per cent of all children aged 2 to 17 with some form of disability, 8 per cent belong to the first quintile and 4 per cent belong to the fifth.[18] Half of all students with disabilities aged 14 to 17 do not attend secondary education.[19] The Committee on the Rights of the Child expressed concern regarding the availability of inclusive education and occupational training. It noted the persistent discriminatory attitudes and practices affecting children and adolescents according to their immigrant status or indigenous origin, their gender and sexual orientation and their status as living with disabilities. Girls continue to face gender-based discrimination, owing to the persistence of adverse and traditional attitudes and norms.

7. More than 1 in 5 students in primary and secondary education reported having experienced violence in schools, while more than 24 per cent reported having perpetrated it.[20] In addition, 7 out of 10 children aged 13–14 years reported having experienced violence at home. More than half claimed to have experienced physical violence; more than 20 per cent psychological and 9 per cent sexual violence. Of the latter, 75 per cent were girls. A total of 40 per cent of all reported victims claimed to have witnessed violence between their caregivers.[21] In 2015 the *Servicio Nacional de Menores* (SENAME) noted that 42 per cent of all children attended to by the institution were there because of sexual abuse and violence.[22]

8. The issue of violence against children is hindered by the fact that Chile lacks a law prohibiting all forms of violence, as well as coordinated prevention and response services through a referral system. Moreover, there is no centralised data collection and information system allowing for adequate monitoring and evidence-based decision-making. Further evidence on the drivers of violence is necessary to ascertain which barriers related to cultural and social norms that can lead to harmful practices and to a culture of silence and acceptance.[23]

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[13] Ministry of Social Development, Encuesta Longitudinal de Primera Infancia (ELPI), 2012.
[14] Ibid.
[15] PISA, 2015.
[16] Ministry of Education, Sistema de Medición de la Calidad de la Educación (SIMCE), 2015.
[17] UNESCO, Tercer Estudio Regional Comparativo y Explicativo (TERCE), 2015.
[18] Ministry of Social Development, Segundo Estudio Nacional de Discapacidad, 2015.
[19] Ibid.
[20] Ministry of the Interior and Admark, 2014.
[21] UNICEF Chile, 2012.
[22] SENAME, Anuario Estadistico 2015.
[23] Situation Analysis (SITAN) (pending publication – 2017).

9. The situation of children in conflict with the law also requires attention. In 2015, 3 per cent of all crimes were committed by adolescents, corresponding to a total of 44,663 cases.[24] Of the adolescents involved, 19,430 (89 per cent male) were attended by SENAME for violating the law.[25] Between 2009 and 2012, 38 per cent of these adolescents were re-offenders within the first 12 months, and 52 per cent after two years.[26] While Chile has made progress in this area, barriers remain in relation to the legal and policy framework and to the capacity of the judicial system to respond according to international standards.

10. Chile currently has a law on adolescent criminal responsibility, juvenile detention centres, and some specialized institutions within the judicial system. The high rates of recidivism suggest that rather than placing focus on prevention, the system still displays a punitive approach. The use of deprivation of liberty including lengthy periods of pre-trial detention,[27] was noted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child. This is related to the lack of specialization of the judicial system. The use of mediation and conflict resolution is also limited, largely because of barriers associated with social and cultural beliefs, built on the assumption that detention is the only effective measure.[28] More actions are needed to further promote assisted liberty, community service, and educational programmes, among others.[29]

11. While Chile has seen a decrease in the number of children without parental care during the last few years, some 14,245 are still in residential care.[30] The lack of adequate social protection and other preventive measures place nearly 9 per cent of children at risk of losing parental care.[31] Children living in poverty and with caregivers who lack employment, education and good health are among those most vulnerable.[32] Rather than systematically supporting families to strengthen and maintain their parental capacities, the system often separates children from their families and places them in large institutions for extended periods of time as a result of a court order, as a measure of first resort.[33] Two notable barriers to improving the situation are the lack of specialization of family judges and lack of a strategy to deinstitutionalize children and place them in family-based care.

12. Chile has advanced in the generation of data to monitor child rights. However, barriers exist in relation to the type and quality of data collected. The country still experiences information gaps on key child indicators. Methodological discrepancies exist between national and international systems to collect child statistics. Additional efforts are needed to establish an integrated information system that includes statistics disaggregated by age, sex, gender identity, disability, ethnicity and socioeconomic and migratory status. This would allow the country to better design evidence-based intersectoral policies and programmes for children throughout the life cycle as well as to monitor progress towards achieving international and national child-related goals such as the Sustainable

[24] Ministerio Público, 2016.
[25] SENAME, Anuario Estadistico, 2015.
[26] SENAME, (2015), Reincidencia de jovenes infractores de Ley RPA.
[27] National Defender Public Office, 2016.
[28] SITAN (pending publication – 2017).
[29] World Bank, 2016.
[30] SENAME, Anuario Estadistico, 2015.
[31] MIDE UC y OBSERVA, (2012). Informe final. Un diagnóstico del sistema de cuidados alternativos del Estado de Chile. Santiago: Escuela de Psicologia UC.
[32] Ibid.
[33] Espejo, N., and Lathrop, F., "Los derechos de los niños, una orientación y un limite—Hacia un rediseño normativo del Sistema de Protección especial de derechos de niños, niñas y adolescentes en Chile". Santiago: Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia (UNICEF), 2015.

Development Goals. It would allow a special focus on highlighting the inequities experienced by the most vulnerable groups.

13. The geographic location and natural characteristics of Chile, as well as the threat of climate change, make its territory vulnerable to recurrent natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, droughts and intense rainfall that cause flooding and landslides. While the Government has solid experience and capacity to respond to emergencies, lessons learned suggest the need to further strengthen capacities to respond in a child-sensitive and child-focused manner.

14. Over the past five years, the joint work of the Government and UNICEF has significantly helped to advance the child rights agenda in the country and achieve many results by overcoming some of the key barriers and bottlenecks. UNICEF has played a strategic role in supporting the Government in building a rights-based legal and policy framework for children that includes a 10-year National Strategy for Childhood and a Draft Children's Act in its final stages of discussions in Parliament.

15. Notwithstanding the country's high income and levels of resources, UNICEF remains essential in the country to provide technical assistance based on global strategies proven effective and aligned with international standards. UNICEF is uniquely positioned in Chile as the trusted child rights agency, with a comprehensive view of the issues facing children and the ability to work simultaneously with all relevant sectors of the Government, civil society, private sector and the United Nations family.

16. The past few years of collaborative efforts have served to confirm that UNICEF's strategic views remain valid: continuous efforts are required to strengthen the protection system through rights-based laws and policies and inter-sectoral coordination and information mechanisms; the reduction of family and child vulnerability should be at the centre of protection policies and programmes; and all segments of society need to have a stronger role towards the realization of child rights.

Programme priorities and partnerships

17. The proposed programme of cooperation aims to advance the efforts of Chile towards the sustained realisation of children's rights in the country and to support promotion of the well-being of children beyond its borders. Guided by the principles of human rights and equity, and using a gender and intercultural lens, the programme will strive to create new, and build on existing opportunities (a) for children to learn and develop in safe and nurturing environments, and (b) for communities and families to exercise their protective roles so that no child is left behind. The programme is based on the premise that (a) legal and policy frameworks are comprehensive and comply with international obligations, and that intersectoral coordination mechanisms are in place, (b) children and families have equal access to quality services, and (c) children and all segments of society take an active role in promoting protecting and respecting child rights.

18. The programme is aligned with the vision of the National Policy for Childhood 2015–2025[34] whereby children are able to exercise their rights throughout the life cycle without any distinction based on place of origin, sex, ethnicity, gender identity or other factors. The planned results will contribute to progress made by Chile towards the 2030 Agenda and

[34] www.consejominfancia.gob.cl/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/POLITICA-2015-2025_versionweb.pdf

Sustainable Development Goals: no poverty, good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, reduced inequalities, peace, justice and strong institutions and partnerships for the goals. The programme will also continue to contribute towards the results of the UNDAF 2015–2018 in all four outcome areas: Social and Economic Development, Consolidation of Democratic Processes and Policy Reforms, Environmental Sustainability and Risk Management, and Strengthening South-South Cooperation.

19. In defining the programme priorities along with the Government and partners, UNICEF was guided by three main factors. The first is that Chile has made significant efforts towards strengthening the protection system through comprehensive legal and policy reform processes. Such efforts will require continuous support in the coming programme. Despite the high levels of service coverage achieved, further attention needs to be paid to promoting greater inclusion of the most disadvantaged and to facilitating better coordination and integration among sectors. Finally, it was acknowledged that Chile remains challenged in relation to societal perceptions and beliefs regarding child rights, a major hindrance towards their valorization and consequent fulfilment.

20. Effective partnerships will be essential to the achievement of the strategic objectives. The Government is the main partner through its line ministries and agencies responsible for the priority areas. Greater emphasis will be placed on strengthening the capacity of civil society to advocate for child rights and to collaborate in the implementation of key strategies. Partnerships will also continue to be fostered with academia and regional and international organizations to facilitate knowledge exchange and South-South and triangular cooperation, avoiding duplication of efforts and ensuring that common objectives are achieved effectively and efficiently.

21. The private sector will play a critical role in the programme: implementing partners in their capacity as service providers; child rights advocates within and beyond corporations, in line with corporate social responsibility policies, the National Plan of Business and Human Rights and with the Child Rights and Business Principles;[35] and major financial contributors towards local fundraising efforts. The efforts of UNICEF Chile in local private sector fundraising is expected to grow considerably throughout the programme.

22. In line with the national strategies[36] and the global UNICEF Gender Action Plan, the programme will contribute to the prevention and elimination of gender-based violence, implementation of gender responsive early childhood development/education programmes and to supporting gender-responsive legislation and policies related to social protection, child budgeting and child-rights monitoring.

Equity and social inclusion

23. This programme component aims to address bottlenecks and barriers related to the legal and policy frameworks, access to quality services, and data and resources that prevent the equitable realization of child rights in social protection, ECD and education. This component is also related to the component on child protection and justice and bottlenecks that prevent the protection of children at risk or victims of violence, without parental care, or in contact and in conflict with the law.

[35] www.unicef.org/csr/12.htm.
[36] www.minmujeryeg.gob.cl/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/ProgramaMB.pdf.

24. The long-term vision of success for this component is that by 2022, children, particularly those in situations of disadvantage, benefit from coordinated policies and programmes, have increased access to integrated social services, and have their rights increasingly monitored. This result will be achieved if: (a) government institutions have increased capacity to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the integrated protection of children and the social protection of children and families, in compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; (b) children and their families benefit from parenting services and programmes as part of integrated early childhood development services at the local level; (c) low-achievement schools address violence, and promote participatory, inclusive and quality education; and (d) the Government has increased capacity to monitor child rights and to generate disaggregated child-related data and evidence.

25. The component will support the Government's ongoing efforts towards strengthening its protection system through the various legal, policy and institutional reform processes. Notwithstanding the progress Chile has made towards creating an enabling environment for children, further legislation and policy are still required so that children can benefit from a comprehensive and integrated system. These reforms are related, among others, to the enactment and implementation of a Draft Children's Act,[17] a law establishing a coordinating entity for child-related policies at ministerial level,[18] and a law regulating resource allocation for service providers.[19] These laws aim to guarantee all children their right to learning and development and to an adequate standard of living. They also aim to secure the right to protection from any harm and to a family environment. The laws are currently at various stages of discussion in Parliament and are expected to be adopted by in the coming years.

26. Also related to this process is the Plan of Action of the National Strategy for Childhood expected to be adopted in 2017. UNICEF will support its implementation and monitoring from a rights approach. The Government has been engaged in education sector reform so that issues around equity and quality, pedagogical practices, and decentralisation can be adequately addressed. Additional commitment has been made towards the reform of social protection policies, including the redesign of *Seguridades y Oportunidades*, (one of the two subsystems of the Intersectoral System of Social Protection) in order to include a rights-based approach and an increase in coverage. The expansion of *Chile Crece Contigo* to include children up to 10 years of age (instead of up to age 4) and the development of an integrated family-focused policy are commitments identified by the Government. The latter aims to promote an adequate standard of living for families and to support enhanced childhood development that is based on the principle of nurturing care. These policies will contribute towards strengthening the protective role of families and reducing child vulnerability to violence and to being in conflict with the law or without parental care.

27. In parallel, this component will support the Government to establish an integrated information system that will allow the monitoring every child's trajectory from 0 to 18 years of age through the system. This will be enabled by the national registry number given

[17] www.camara.cl/pley/pley_detalle.aspx?prmID=10729&prmBoletin=10315-18

[18] www.camara.cl/pley/pley_detalle.aspx?prmID=10727&prmBoletin=10314-06

[19] www.leychile.cl/Consulta/m/norma_plana?idNorma=240374&org=bleyes_t%3Fi_n%3DXX1%26nro_ley%3D20032%26orga%3D%26f_pub%3D

to every resident in the country. In turn, government officials will have access to centralised data to further policy and decision-making for service provision and resource allocation.

28. Inequities regarding access to quality ECD and education services will also be addressed. To enhance the protective role of parents and caregivers and to increase coverage of quality services, an integrated parenting programme will be piloted in three selected municipalities and evaluated for scaling up. The programme will seek to improve parental skills in coordination with health, education, social and child protection services. The aim is to foster nurturing care and thereby reduce developmental delays, violent discipline, and existing gaps between the most and least disadvantaged.

29. The component will promote inclusive and participatory education policies and programmes at the local level to improve learning outcomes in low-achievement schools, so that the most disadvantaged children receive quality education, including through innovative learning methodologies. Efforts will be made to reduce violence and enhance educational outcomes by promoting the principles of peace, tolerance, equality and mutual respect through the implementation of *convivencia* policies and of programmes promoting life skills, and social and emotional skills. Space will also be created for adolescent participation and promotion of child rights.

30. Finally, regarding child rights monitoring and evidence-generation, this component will support the expansion of the national statistical information system for better monitoring of rights and for monitoring every child's trajectory through the system. The current design needs to be aligned with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and include all rights. In promoting the implementation of this system, UNICEF will work towards its consolidation among relevant stakeholders so that it is a centralized and single mechanism. Capacity will be transferred to the Government to monitor national budgets for children.

31. The following strategies will be applied: policy and advocacy dialogue for the development and strengthening of laws and policies as part of the integrated protection system; generation and dissemination of evidence through studies, surveys and others to support evidence-based policy development and implementation of pilot programmes; facilitating the monitoring of child rights as well as budgeting in this area; development of institutional capacities to implement policies and programmes based on evidence; communication for development to enable community, family and adolescent engagement, in particular in the implementation of parenting, life skills, and social emotional skills, and adolescent participation programmes; South-South and triangular cooperation to exchange experience and learn from similar contexts.

Child protection and justice

32. This programme component aims to address bottlenecks and barriers related to the legal and policy frameworks, coordinated services and social and behavioural change in order to enhance the protection of children at risk or who are victims of violence, without parental care, and in contact and in conflict with the law. The outcomes and outputs of this component are complementary to those in the component on equity and inclusion. Results will be enhanced through the strengthening of the overall protection system and its legal, policy and institutional framework. This includes the Draft Children's Act and the National Plan for the National Strategy for Childhood. The component aims to further prevent violence against children and children from coming into conflict with the law, as well as child and family strengthening and the prevention of placement of children in residential

care will also be enhanced through the outcomes related to: increased access to comprehensive parenting programmes, inclusive and integrated social protection services, and inclusive and participatory quality education.

33. The long-term vision of success for this component is that by 2022, children, particularly those at risk and those who are victims of violence, who are without parental care and who are in contact and in conflict with the law, benefit from a specialised legal, policy and institutional framework and have access to coordinated prevention and response services. This result will be achieved once: (a) government institutions have increased capacity to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the specialised protection of children in compliance with international standards; (b) the police and justice sector have increased capacity to provide services to protect children who are victims of violence, without parental care, and in contact and in conflict with the law, in three selected municipalities; and (c) society values positive discipline towards children, the child's right to live in a family environment and restorative justice.

34. Through this component, the programme will continue to support the Government in strengthening legal and policy frameworks, but with a focus on specialized protection. While the country counts on legal provisions on violence against children within and outside of the family, the current framework does not cover all forms of violence in all settings, leaving important gaps. While quality response services for child victims are available, there is limited coordination and integration among them. Advocacy and technical assistance need to be directed to all branches of government so that a referral system for victims can be developed through legislation, and implemented through policy. An integrated information and data mechanism for child victims of violence is also required to monitor the child's trajectory through the system and to allow sectors to make use of the same data, avoiding double-counting.

35. Support will be provided for reforming the legal and policy framework for children without parental care and in need of special protection, given the significant number of children still placed in large institutions for extended periods of time. This effort includes technical revisions of laws defining specialised services and alternative care, and the development and implementation of a long-term national strategy aiming to prevent separation of children from their families and their placement in residential care and to deinstitutionalizing children through family reintegration or placement in family-based alternative care.

36. From a legal and policy standpoint, additional efforts need to be made to strengthen the current legislative framework on justice for children so that it is fully aligned with international standards. Amendments to legislation are required for greater emphasis on crime prevention, on the application of alternative measures and on restorative justice. Aligned with these efforts is the need to develop, implement and monitor child-sensitive and child-friendly protocols and standards for the police and justice sectors for children in conflict and in contact with the law, reinforcing the structural and functional specialization requirements in these sectors. This is in consideration of the important levels of excessive placement of children in detention centres, including lengthy pretrial detention. Such protocols and standards, along with the establishment of mechanisms for mediation and conflict resolution, will be piloted in three municipalities. These models will be evaluated for their effectiveness and eventual scaling up.

37. A communication strategy will be developed to promote social change in the use of violent discipline and in societal perception of children in conflict with the law and without parental care. Mass-media communication and behavioural change approaches, as well as adolescent participation, will be key to achieving a desired shift in attitude and behaviour. The component will forge partnerships with young people, considering their potential as agents of change and as future contributors of resources to these efforts.

38. Other strategies will also be applied: policy and advocacy dialogue for the development, and strengthening of laws of the child protection system; generation and dissemination of evidence through studies, surveys and others mechanisms to support evidence-based policy development and implementation of pilot programmes; development of institutional capacities to implement protocols and standards and to allow for the specialisation of the police and justice sectors; communication for development to enable community, family and adolescent engagement, in particular in the implementation of the communication strategy for social and behavioural change; South-South and triangular cooperation to exchange experience and learn from similar contexts.

Programme effectiveness

39. This component will support all activities relating to programme implementation and management, including technical and strategic assistance. It covers the cost of programme coordination and cross-cutting issues, such as programme performance-monitoring, fundraising, advocacy and communication, gender mainstreaming and disaster risk reduction and resilience.

Summary budget table

Programme component	*(In thousands of United States dollars)*		
	Regular resources	*Other resources*	*Total*
Equity and social inclusion	2 200	5 500	7 700
Child protection and justice	1 000	3 100	4 100
Programme effectiveness	1 050	2 000	3 050
Total	**4 250**	**10 600**	**14 850**

Programme and risk management

40. This CPD outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

41. The Ministry of Social Development will coordinate planning and monitoring of the country programme with line ministries and departments responsible for implementation and management of programmes. Provincial and municipal administrations, along with relevant departments, will be responsible for programme collaboration at the local level. Progress towards results will be monitored annually.

42. UNICEF will enhance the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of the programme by strengthening its emphasis on management for results and by monitoring programmatic indicators. UNICEF will maintain full compliance with the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) framework in increasingly close cooperation with other United Nations funds and programmes.

43. A risk management strategy will be operationalized to mitigate the following risks to the achievement of programme results: diminishing funding from local fundraising; lack of intersectoral coordination; and weak capacity and coordination of partners. Updates and reviews of the emergency preparedness of UNICEF will also be undertaken with the United Nations Country Team (UNCT).

44. Continued efforts will be made to strengthen partnerships with civil society, putting in place capacity and financial-assurance measures, in cases where UNICEF funding is channelled through civil society organizations to implement the country programme. The trend in resource mobilization from the private sector shows steady growth and is expected to gradually increase local fundraising. This will contribute to UNICEF-supported programmes not only in Chile but also in other countries. The aim is to rely on increased contributions to global regular resources while maintaining independent voice of UNICEF on child rights.

Monitoring and evaluation

45. The results and resources framework (see annex) forms the basis for monitoring and evaluation. Workplans will be developed and programme results will be reviewed with government partners and other key stakeholders annually.

46. It is anticipated that the use of sources for administrative data will lead to greater data availability and facilitate ongoing programme monitoring and analysis. UNICEF will support the efforts of the Government with quantitative and qualitative studies and child-focus household surveys to inform the country programme, address key data gaps and monitor progress against relevant Sustainable Development Goals and other child rights indicators.

47. Evaluations, as outlined in the costed evaluation plan, will support decision-making, including for scaling up key initiatives and models that will be developed as part of the programme. Under each programme component, UNICEF will support the generation of disaggregated data, knowledge and evidence, which will provide greater insight into the deprivations, barriers and disparities that exist across categories of age, sex, wealth quintiles, origin and ethnicity.

48. UNICEF will continue to participate in the UNCT working group for the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), chaired by the United Nations Resident Coordinator, and the programme working groups that review the strategic management and achievements of the UNDAF. UNICEF contributions to the UNDAF outcomes will be reviewed within these mechanisms. In 2018, the UNCT will finalize the elaboration of a new UNDAF. UNICEF will continue to align its CPD with its contribution to the new UNDAF outcomes and to the national priorities for children.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Chile – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2018–2022

Convention on the Rights of the Child (relevant articles): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 18, 19, 20, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 37, 40

National priorities (related Sustainable Development Goals) 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 16, 17

UNDAF outcomes involving UNICEF (2015–2018): 1. Social and economic development with greater equality, 2. Consolidation of democratic processes and political reforms, 3. Environmental sustainability and risk management, and 4. South-South cooperation.

Related draft UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 Goal Areas:[1] 1-5 1. Every child survives and thrives, 2. Every child learns, 3 Every child is protected from violence and exploitation, 4. Equity – every child has a fair chance in life, and 5. Every child lives in a safe and clean environment.

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (in thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
1. By 2022, children, particularly those in situations of disadvantage, benefit from coordinated policies and programmes, have increased access to integrated social services, and have their rights increasingly monitored.	1.1 Percentage of Committee on the Rights of the Child recommendations linked to the policy and regulatory framework for integrated child and social protection B: 0% of 9 (2015) T: 33%	Internal reporting, Recommendations Monitoring System (SIMORE)	Government institutions have increased capacity to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the integrated protection of children and social protection in compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Children and their families benefit from parenting services and programmes as part of integrated early childhood development services at the local level. Low-achievement schools address	Ministries of Social Development, Education, Health, Interior, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia, the private sector and United Nations entities.	2 200	5 500	7 700
	1.2. Number of households with children covered by government cash-transfer programmes B: 44,500 (2016) T: 46725	Official data produced by Ministry of Social Development					
	1.3 % of children included in an integrated registration system for monitoring and follow-up	Official data produced by Ministry of Social Development					

[1] The final version will be presented to the UNICEF Executive Board for approval at its second regular session of 2017.

UNDAF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners/ partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outputs, regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (in thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
	B: 22% (2016) T: 40%		violence and promote participatory, inclusive and quality education The Government has increased capacity to monitor child rights and to generate disaggregated child-related data and evidence				
	1.4 Average Index of School Environment of the lowest socioeconomic schools (0 to 100 scale) B: 72 (2015) T: 80	Index of School Environment Indicators of Personal and Social Development Agency of the Quality of Education					
2. By 2022, children, particularly those who are at risk, who are victims of violence, who are without parental care, and who are in contact and conflict with the law, benefit from a specialized legal, policy and institutional framework and have access to coordinated prevention and response services.	2.1 % of compliance of the specialized legal and policy framework with international standards (Convention on the Rights of the Child) B: 0% of 12 (2015) T: 33%	SIMORI	Government institutions have increased capacity to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the specialized protection of children in compliance with international standards The police and justice sector have increased capacity to provide services to protect children who are victims of violence, without parental care, and in contact and conflict with the law, in selected municipalities Society values positive discipline towards children, the child's right to live in a family environment, and restorative justice	Ministries of Interior, Justice, the judicial system, Parliament, NGOs, academia, the private sector and United Nations entities	1 000	3 100	4 100
	2.2 Children aged 1–14 who have experienced violent disciplinary practices by an adult member of the household during the past month B: TBD in 2017/2018 T: Decrease at 10%	Early childhood longitudinal survey					
	2.3 Children in detention per 100,000 child population B: 88 (2015) T: 81	National Statistical Yearbook, National Service for Minors					
	2.4 Number of children who are placed in residential care B: 14,245, (2015) T: 9,973	National Statistical Yearbook, National Service for Minors					
3. Programme effectiveness					1 050	2 000	3 050

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
Total resources					**4 250**	**10 600**	**14 850**

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United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
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Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Costa Rica

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Costa Rica is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of $4,250,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $4,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2018 to 2022.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2017.

* E/ICEF/2017/14.

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Programme rationale

1. Costa Rica is an upper-middle-income country with impressive social and economic gains, particularly for children and adolescents, who represent 31 per cent of the total population of 4.6 million. Three out of every 10 children are under the age of five, while 4 out of 10 are between the ages of 13 and 17. An almost equal proportion of the population live in urban as in rural areas, 51 per cent and 49 per cent, respectively.[1] The country is now reaching the end of its demographic bonus, with an increasingly ageing population and a reversal in dependency ratios, which have implications for the care and upbringing of young children and the elderly.

2. Compared to three decades ago, Costa Rican children today enjoy more opportunities for their survival, development and protection, the result of universal and targeted social protection programmes. The country's position in the Human Development Index has improved from 69 in 2010 to 66 in 2015.[2] Costa Rica has an array of laws, policies and programmes to protect the rights of children, including the National Policy and Agenda for Children and Adolescents, and was the first Central American country to undertake reforms of its juvenile justice system. A comprehensive national and local system of integral protection (Sistema Nacional de Protección Integral, SNPI) is in place. In 2015, Costa Rica began the process of accession to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

3. In 2015, the country guaranteed high levels of social sector investment: 24 per cent of public sector expenditure as a proportion of the gross domestic product (GDP) and 48 per cent as a proportion of total government spending, while 8.3 per cent of all spending is focused on the most vulnerable populations. Approximately 24 per cent of total public social expenditure is in the health sector and, by constitutional mandate, the Government must allocate 8 per cent of GDP to education. Increasing fiscal difficulties, public sector debt (43 per cent of GDP in 2015) and sectoral spending inefficiencies affect the country's capacities to sustain these investments.[3] In 2016, Costa Rica was one of two countries in the region to register an increase in Gini-based inequality.[4]

4. Despite significant progress in the social sector and the existence of several poverty reduction programmes, 21 per cent of the population is still poor, more so in rural areas (26 per cent) than in urban areas (19 per cent), compounding the challenge that no child is left behind, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This illustrates the need for more programmes that bring different institutions together, such as Puente para el Desarrollo (Bridge to Development), which is starting to generate important results. Thirty four per cent of all children live in monetary poverty, of which 12 per cent live in extreme poverty, while 34.4 per cent of children suffer from multidimensional poverty deprivations.[5] The UNICEF-supported Child Welfare Index clearly shows that the most vulnerable children live in rural areas and coastal and border communities, and are

[1] National Census of Population and Housing, 2011, National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC).
[2] United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Report, 2016, p. 205.
[3] Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy (MIDEPLAN), System of Indicators on Sustainable Development (SIDES).
[4] Social Panorama of Latin America, Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2016.
[5] National Household Survey, INEC, 2016.

primarily from indigenous, Afrodescendent and migrant populations, as well as children with disabilities.[6]

5. Although Costa Rica has the lowest infant mortality rate (IMR) in Central America (7.5 deaths per 1,000 live births), this masks important disparities. The lowest IMR (5.7 deaths per 1,000 live births) is in the more affluent urban province of San José, whereas the highest rate (11 deaths per 1,000 live births) is in the poorer rural province of Limón, which has a high concentration of Afrodescendent and indigenous populations.[7] Overall, only 7 per cent of newborns have a low birthweight, with a rate increasing to 10 per cent in the lowest wealth quintile and dropping to 4 per cent in the highest. Significantly, the condition affects 14 per cent of indigenous newborns.[8] Whereas chronic malnutrition is not a major problem, overweight and obesity are emerging public health and education concerns: 3 out of 10 school-aged children were found to be obese or overweight (30 per cent) in 2016, a 43 per cent increase since 2009.[9] Although the maternal mortality registry has weaknesses that limit an equity analysis, the maternal mortality ratio is likely higher among indigenous and Afrodescendent women.[10]

6. Early childhood development (ECD) is marked by socio-economic and cultural variables. Although nationally 81 per cent of children between ages 3 to 4 enjoy an adequate level of physical, emotional and intellectual development, this increases to 93 per cent in wealthier homes and drops to 69 per cent in poorer homes. Also, only 37 per cent of all young children live in homes with more than three age-appropriate books, but with marked geographical disparities: 43 per cent (urban) and 29 per cent (rural).[11] To redress these disparities, the 2016 National Early Childhood Development Policy positions young children, especially the most disadvantaged, as a priority.

7. As an established national priority, pre-school education enrolment rates have improved from 27.1 per cent in 2002 to 60.6 per cent in 2014, although the rates are still much higher in urban than rural areas. Despite the fact that Costa Rica has historically been a strong performer at primary level, the quality of learning and teaching processes are challenges. Although gender parity has been sustained, the net enrolment rate dropped from 98 per cent in 2010 to 93 per cent in 2014.[12]

8. Only 51 per cent of adolescents complete secondary school due to high dropout and repetition rates, despite the improvements in physical infrastructure, teaching methodologies and curricula that have resulted in a steady increase in net enrolment rates from 54 per cent in 2000 to 70 per cent in 2015. The educational performance of the most vulnerable children illustrates the challenges behind reaching full inclusion. For instance, in 2011, migrant or indigenous children were twice as likely to be out of school (24 per cent and 20 per cent, respectively) than non-migrant or non-indigenous children (12 per cent for both). The rates of children with and without disabilities in 2011 who were out of school started to level off, at 14 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively, compared to 29 per cent and 19 per cent in 2000. Fewer adolescents in rural areas (83 per cent) attend secondary school

[6] www.mideplan.go.cr/2014-05-20-21-27-18?id=1328.
[7] State of the Rights of Children and Adolescents (EDNA), University of Costa Rica (UCR)/UNICEF, 2015.
[8] Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), 2011.
[9] National School Weight and Weight Census, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Public Education, UNICEF, 2016.
[10] Maternal mortality and its recent evolution, INEC, 2015.
[11] MICS, 2011.
[12] State of the Education Report, State of the Nation Programme, 2015.

than their urban peers (91 per cent). Repetition rates are almost equal for rural and urban adolescents (9 per cent) suggesting issues of quality of teaching and learning processes.[13]

9. At national level, 46 per cent of children between ages 2 to 14 (52 per cent boys and 39 per cent girls) experienced at least one form of physical or psychological abuse from their parents or caregivers, with the practice more prevalent among uneducated heads of household (8 per cent) than educated heads (3 per cent).[14] Administrative data, although disparate and outdated, confirm the growing numbers of children and adolescents who are victims of myriad forms of violence in the family, community, school and institutions. The number of daily hospital admissions of abused children has more than tripled, from 9 in 2006 to 26 in 2013, and there is probably underreporting.[15] In 2015, approximately 42,000 cases of child maltreatment were reported to the National Child Welfare Agency, 70 per cent of which were related to domestic abuse, negligence and physical aggression.[16]

10. Gender-based violence is reaching worrying levels: in 2015 the Ministry of Health reported approximately 13,000 cases of domestic violence, of which 68 per cent involved women and 21 per cent girls, and in 2016, an average of four femicides occurred each month. Despite a strong policy and institutional gender agenda, the country still experiences challenges in eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private domains.

11. Violence in schools, including bullying, is another barrier to safe educational environments. Approximately 50,000 cases were reported in 2013, and in 2015 a total of 370 firearms and other weapons were confiscated in schools.[17] Forty-five per cent of homicides in 2014 were concentrated among the 15-29 year age group, and disproportionately affected more men (89 per cent) than women (11 per cent).[18]

12. Establishing data systems that disaggregate child rights violations by gender, geography and household income is a priority to better inform policies and programmes and measure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal target of ending abuse and all forms of violence against children.

13. Twenty-first century children and adolescents in Costa Rica are increasingly digitally native, with the rate of those living in homes with access to a mobile phone and the Internet respectively at 97 per cent and 52 per cent. These high access rates increasingly expose children and adolescents, particularly girls, to cyberbullying and online trafficking.[19]

14. The challenges experienced by adolescents are an emerging issue, and most are related to protection rights violations. Early pregnancy and motherhood in girls of increasingly younger ages have revealed their limited access to adolescent-friendly health care, and the gendered norms and values that underpin these outcomes. Whereas nationally 16 per cent of all pregnancies occur among adolescents aged 15 to 19, the rate increases to 22 per cent and 19 per cent among Afrodescendent and indigenous populations, respectively.[20] Adolescent suicides represent the third cause of deaths for adolescents

[13] Ibid.
[14] MICS, 2011.
[15] National Children's Hospital.
[16] National Child Welfare Agency.
[17] Ministry of Public Education.
[18] Ministry of Justice.
[19] ECLAC/UNICEF, 2014.
[20] Database of Deaths, Demographic Statistics, INEC/UNFPA.

between ages 15 to 19 and in indigenous communities is quadruple the national rate.[21] Rounding off these barriers to development are inadequate educational and vocational alternatives for out-of-school adolescents, high rates of unemployment (70 per cent) and alcohol and substance abuse (50 per cent in schools).[22] Adolescents are concerned about insufficient action on the environment, climate change, recreational spaces and opportunities to participate in policy and programme issues.[23]

15. Costa Rica is vulnerable to natural disasters produced by hurricanes, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, and in 2016, the passing of Hurricane Otto revealed difficulties in disaster risk reduction strategies and response mechanisms to address the needs of children, adolescents, women and persons with disabilities.

16. Two key lessons, relevant in the context of the 2030 Agenda, will inform future programming: (a) Notwithstanding the impressive gains for children, insufficient coordination between governmental institutions and among government, civil society, the private sector and other partners, and difficulties obtaining disaggregated data, foster redundancies and missed opportunities that can be redressed with a stronger innovation, results-based management and evaluation culture; and (b) the solid framework of laws and policies to protect children and guarantee their rights is necessary but insufficient to resolve the principal barriers affecting children's rights, unless families and communities become actively engaged in policy design, programme implementation and monitoring child rights fulfilment.

17. Consequently, UNICEF will need to strengthen its core strategies in upper-middle-income countries in transition to high-income status: equity-focused monitoring and evaluation of the situation of children; evidence-based advocacy and public policy incidence; institutional capacity-building; community-focused communication for development (C4D); and South-South and triangular cooperation, with a focus on sustaining past gains and guaranteeing that the most disadvantaged children and adolescents are at the centre of national priorities. Similarly, the Committee on the Rights of the Child has noted that Costa Rica must accelerate the holistic implementation of its recommendations so that national legislation and public policies are fully harmonized with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and effectively applied at all levels.

Programme priorities and partnerships

18. Guided by the draft UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, the country programme's broad theory of change is that thousands of children and adolescents, principally from migrant, indigenous and Afrodescendent communities, poor households and those living with disabilities, have been excluded from the social and economic gains that have benefited a large majority of the population, leading to missed opportunities for their development. Three programme priorities – inclusive ECD and education; child protection; and social inclusion, public advocacy and communication – were identified through a process involving numerous counterparts. Five barriers that impede these children from benefiting from all of their rights were analysed: design of public policies that limit greater incidence; institutional capacity constraints and insufficient coordination; inadequate

[21] Psychosocial analysis of suicides amongst indigenous youth, UCR, 2017.
[22] Fourth national survey on drug use in secondary school students, IAFA, 2015.
[23] UNICEF Costa Rica survey *Tu Voz Vale*, 2015.

societal awareness of the plight of children; spending inefficiencies; and specific social norms that perpetuate child rights violations.

19. The programme priorities are rooted in the country's democratic tradition of protecting the human rights of its inhabitants, particularly of the neediest demographic groups, and is aligned with the National Policy and Agenda for Children and Adolescents and the National Development Plan.

20. The programme furthers the priorities of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) related to: achieving national agreements to accelerate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals; promoting innovation, efficiency and effectiveness in the management of sustainable development with equality; and strengthening civil society capacities to participate in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. These priorities will buttress the National Pact to Meet the Sustainable Development Goals, which coalesces more than 300 government, civil society, private sector and international development agencies.

21. A six-pronged gender strategy, consistent with the draft UNICEF Gender Action Plan, 2018-2021, will underpin the programme: (a) generation of gender-disaggregated data that illustrate disparities affecting boys and girls; (b) awareness-building on the different manifestations of gender inequalities; (c) incorporation of a gender focus in different protection systems; (d) strengthening policies and programmes with a focus on eradicating gender inequalities; (e) capacity strengthening to incorporate gender dimensions in planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation; and (f) monitoring the compliance of gender-related observations regarding girls and boys from the various committees of human rights conventions and treaties.

22. Evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy will, inter alia, position children's issues in the public agenda and facilitate monitoring, accountability frameworks and consensus-building on policy implementation and raise awareness of the principal challenges faced by children. The programme will expand South-South and triangular cooperation, both as a recipient and provider of technical expertise. Information, communication and technological innovations will inform programme results. Institutional and community-based capacity-building will focus on competencies to remove barriers.

23. A broad partnership base uniting key national government institutions, municipal authorities, legislative and judicial sectors, civil society and the private sector will generate a high level of ownership, intersectoral synergies and coordination to reduce fragmentation and enhance programmatic efficiencies.

Inclusive early childhood development and education

24. This component addresses the key barriers that hinder inclusive ECD, universalization of pre-school education and the reduction of secondary school exclusion. Addressing these barriers will be achieved by fostering shared responsibility between the public sector, local communities and the private sector to position lifelong learning of children and adolescents in the country's model of social development and economic growth, and strengthening institutional capacities to address gender-based and other drivers of poor ECD and education outcomes among the most vulnerable children and adolescents.

25. The component assumes that service providers improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their institutional roles, stressing coordination to reduce duplication and redundancies; services will respond to the specific requirements and demands of vulnerable

populations; education cannot provide social mobility unless excluded children and adolescents are prioritized; and investment must focus equally on quantity and quality of services.

26. UNICEF will strengthen the capacities of ECD and pre-school institutions to remove the bottlenecks of insufficient gender-responsive, culturally appropriate services for young children and their families, and limited intersectoral coordination mechanisms and quality standards, including in emergencies. The goal is to reach 50 per cent coverage for children by the national early childhood care system and 100 per cent coverage in pre-school education by 2022. UNICEF will work with the Ministries of Public Education, Social Development and Health, and with the National Child Welfare Agency, to implement the recently launched National Early Childhood Policy and the forthcoming revised National Care Policy. Key strategies include: curriculum development and reform; protocols and standards development for ECD service providers; capacity-building for institutional personnel; improved monitoring and evaluation mechanisms; and expanded social awareness on the importance of the early years of children.

27. UNICEF will support national efforts led by the Ministry of Public Education to address the bottlenecks of insufficient opportunities and alternatives for the most disadvantaged adolescents to successfully transition from primary to secondary education, and to complete the latter, as well as limited vocational alternatives for specific groups of adolescents. Support will continue for the innovative Yo Me Apunto (I'm All In) programme to combat education exclusion. The goal is to by 2022 increase secondary school completion from 51 per cent to 80 per cent, supported by these strategies: improved identification and focus on out-of-school children and adolescents; strengthened research and evaluation to improve teaching methodologies; enhanced roles of municipal authorities in providing local education services; and provision of vocational and technical education alternatives.

28. This component will collaborate with the child protection component by strengthening the relationship between institutions in the SNPI involved in ECD and education issues, and with the social inclusion component in the generation of data to improve the monitoring and analysis of investment in ECD and education. It supports the social inclusion, public advocacy and communication component by raising awareness of the importance of ECD in the lives of young children and for equitable social and economic development. Such articulation will enable coherent actions to strengthen institutional capacities to address school-related gender-based violence, early pregnancy and early unions.

Child protection

29. This component responds to the barriers that prevent children and adolescents from growing up and developing, throughout their entire life cycle, in homes, communities, schools and institutions that are free of violence, maltreatment and negligence. The component will support the implementation of the National Policy on the Prevention of Violence against Children.

30. Successful results will depend on the following key assumptions: the SNPI function in a coordinated manner, including during humanitarian crises; national bodies and mechanisms on gender-based violence are integrated with prevention programmes and policies on violence against children; data and evidence gaps are filled through improved monitoring and evaluation systems; and social and gender norms and values that perpetuate

violence against children and adolescents, especially at family and community levels, are progressively eradicated.

31. UNICEF will address the barriers that hinder the ability of the SNPI to develop innovative, articulated and replicable models to prevent violence in the regions with the highest levels of social exclusion and environmental fragility. The goal is to develop at least seven of these models and that all local protection systems in selected Child Friendly Municipalities have developed and implemented effective violence prevention models and interventions, and to contribute by 2022 to the reduction by at least 50 per cent in the number of reported cases of child abuse and maltreatment. Supporting strategies include: improved technical, programme design and implementation capacities of the SNPI; national upscaling of the successful Casas de la Alegria (Houses of Happiness) model for the care and protection of indigenous migrant children; policy dialogues on the implementation of intervention models on armed violence, gender-based violence, juvenile justice and cyberviolence; improved data collection, analysis and research to inform policies and programmes; influencing resource allocations for violence prevention programmes; and awareness-building on the problem of violence against children.

32. UNICEF will also address the barriers that affect the ability of society to modify its knowledge, perceptions and relationships regarding children based on a recognition and protection of their rights. This entails strengthening the legal and normative framework to have an enhanced impact on policy development and programme implementation through more specialized violence prevention programmes and proactive societal involvement in order to reach the neediest children and adolescents. Key strategies include: strengthening social research around the drivers of violence against children in homes, communities, schools and institutions; replication of innovative violence prevention models; and strengthened C4D capacities to change negative social norms and values.

33. This component supports the inclusive ECD and education component through a focus on children and adolescents who abandon school due to violence. It will strengthen the social inclusion component through the production of data and evidence to inform the upscaling of innovations and the strengthening of the existing protection system.

Social inclusion, public advocacy and communication

34. This component strives to eliminate the barriers that impede progress in education, early childhood and child protection service delivery, through improved management and coordination of social policies for the most vulnerable children and adolescents. Insufficient civil society, child and adolescent engagement with policymakers to develop innovations that eradicate social, cultural and geographical disparities is one such barrier. The component also identifies high institutional fragmentation and its negative impact on sustainable and effective child-focused policies as another barrier. The component will strengthen social inclusion and protection systems to better cope with the impact of shocks like climate change, unplanned urbanization and environmental degradation on the quality of lives of children and adolescents.

35. This component assumes that social protection and welfare institutions will use innovation and results-based management in policy and programme development; redress institutional fragmentation through enhanced horizontal cooperation; close data gaps related to children and adolescents in particular situations of vulnerability, including in emergencies, through research, monitoring and evaluation; increase resources for the analysis of child-friendly budgets; support civil society, children and adolescents to

generate greater policy and programmatic incidence; and utilize awareness campaigns and C4D to position children's issues in the public domain.

36. UNICEF will strengthen the capacities of key social sector institutions to design, manage, monitor and evaluate policies in a results-based, efficient and innovative manner, complemented by research and evaluations to improve the scope and incidence of policies for children and adolescents. Accreditation of child-focused services will be promoted and a gender dimension will be introduced in policies for children. Strategies to address these bottlenecks include strengthening the impact of top-level frameworks and policies, principally the National Agenda and Policy for Children and Adolescents, as well as key policies in education, ECD and protection; improving monitoring with a child-focused poverty observatory; strengthened United Nations inter-agency work on public sector management of social policies; and improved monitoring of public investments in children.

37. UNICEF will address knowledge management limitations so as to improve monitoring, evaluation and decision-making related to the child-focused Sustainable Development Goals and the SNPI, with a view to reducing the disparities that affect children and women. The capacities of the Ministries of Public Education, Social Development, Planning, Finance and Health, as well as the National Child Welfare Agency, will be strengthened to generate the data required to improve policy decisions. Advocacy will be undertaken, in line with General Comment 19 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to increase and protect budgets for children. Core strategies include innovations like the UNICEF-supported Child Welfare Index; researching understudied issues affecting children such as obesity, mental illnesses, disabilities and substance abuse; expanding partnerships with think tanks and academic institutions; and strengthening social protection programmes to build resilience in children and their communities during and after emergencies.

38. Addressing the barrier of insufficient national agreements that guarantee the rights of all children and the reduction of inequalities entails involving the public and private sectors, civil society, the media and children and adolescents, focusing on those areas where Costa Rica has still not been able to guarantee equal opportunities for all children. By the end of the cycle, civil society will actively propose improvements to programmes for children and adolescents. An integrated communication and public advocacy strategy will inform this component and the entire programme, and engagement and reach will be significantly increased, notably through social media.

39. This programme component will work with the other two components through the identification of sectoral policies that need to be developed and reviewed; construction of mechanisms to address critical data gaps; and production of C4D strategies that will assist in removing the identified bottlenecks in ECD, education and child protection.

Programme effectiveness

40. This component supports activities to ensure integrated and intersectoral programme implementation and management, including specific technical and strategic assistance. It includes costs of programme coordination and cross-cutting issues such as fundraising, gender mainstreaming and risk-informed programming, given that the third component of the country programme covers the costs for research, monitoring, evaluation, advocacy and communication.

Summary budget table

Programme component	*(In thousands of United States dollars)*		
	Regular resources	*Other resources*	*Total*
Inclusive ECD and education	890	2 100	2 990
Child protection	1 250	1 000	2 250
Social inclusion, public advocacy and communication	1 320	900	2 220
Programme effectiveness	790	0	790
Total	**4 250**	**4 000**	**8 250**

Programme and risk management

41. The country management team will monitor programme and management indicators to take corrective action when required in budget and programme implementation, complemented by additional governance structures defined in Annual Management Plans. Enterprise Risk Management will control risks associated with the harmonized approach to cash transfers; trends in the local fundraising environment, especially other resources; the impact of emergencies on the programme; office greening; and staff changes, among others.

42. UNICEF will participate in the governance of the UNDAF, including the United Nations country team (UNCT) and the high-level National Committee, led by the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy, which also oversees the coordination of the country programme. The UNICEF Representative will lead one results group and technical staff will participate in UNCT advisory working groups. Coordination with municipal governments is required for the Child Friendly Municipalities initiative. Results-based management and innovation will inform coordination to ensure programme quality, efficiency and effectiveness.

43. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at the country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

Monitoring and evaluation

44. The integrated results and resources framework forms the basis for monitoring and evaluating the country programme to generate the necessary information and data to support programme implementation.

45. Annual meetings, jointly coordinated by the Ministries of National Planning and Foreign Affairs and involving programme partners, will report on achievements and challenges based on Annual Work Plans. UNICEF will participate in the UNDAF monitoring committee where joint programmes and other initiatives will be monitored. The UNCT will monitor the Standard Operating Procedures and relevant issues from the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (QCPR).

46. Administrative systems will facilitate situational monitoring and analysis, including the National Statistical System, the Child Welfare Index and the Information Subsystem on Children and Adolescents. UNICEF will strengthen capacities to produce data on the most disadvantaged groups of children and adolescents, and with a gender dimension, in order to address progress in the elimination of key barriers that inhibit gender equality. A second Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) will be carried out in 2018 to inform the programme, address key data gaps and support the monitoring of child and adolescent indicators related to national priorities, the Sustainable Development Goals and compliance with the observations of the committees related to the principal human rights conventions and treaties.

47. The Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and the costed evaluation plan support decision-making, improvement of existing and development of new child-focused policies, and the scale up of promising innovations, complemented by capacity strengthening in monitoring, evaluation research and methodology and gender analysis.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Costa Rica – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2018-2022

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 3, 5-6, 18-19, 24, 27-31.
National priorities: National Development Plan 2015-2018: Objective 2: Combating poverty and reducing inequality; and Objective 3: Transparent and efficient government.

National Policy on Children and Adolescents, 2009-2021:

- An education system that ensures capacity-building for children under conditions of universal quality and equity coverage, with the active participation of children in the educational community.
- A State that protects, cares for and restores the fulfilment of the rights of children victims of violence, abuse, exploitation and trafficking.

Sustainable Development Goals: 1-5, 10 and 16-17.

UNDAF outcomes involving UNICEF:
Priority 1: Strengthened capacities to achieve national agreements to accelerate implementation of the SDGs; **Priority 2**: Improved institutional capacities for innovation, efficiency and effectiveness in the management of sustainable development with equality; and **Priority 3:** Strengthened civil society capacities to participate in SDG implementation.

Outcome indicators measuring change that includes UNICEF contribution:
Priority 1: Number of agreements that integrate a mechanism of SDG compliance and accountability; number of spaces that foster dialogues with multiple actors; number of proposals for a comprehensive approach to citizen security; number of civil society campaigns to disseminate Agenda 2030.
Priority 2: Number of public institutions and national and local planning mechanisms incorporating results-based management with gender and human rights approaches; number of national and local participation platforms in public management processes for the elimination of human rights and development gaps; number of institutions with established information generation to improve knowledge gaps for SDG compliance.
Priority 3: Number of coordination spaces of social organizations (particularly those for excluded groups) aimed at the enforcement of rights; and number of information disclosure processes related to knowledge gaps on the enforcement of human rights.

Related draft UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 Goal Areas:[1] Goal 2: Every child learns; Goal 3: Every child is protected from violence and exploitation; and Goal 5: Every child has an equitable chance in life.

[1] The final version will be presented to the UNICEF Executive Board for approval at its second regular session of 2017.

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome, regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
Inclusive early childhood development and education: By 2022, the most vulnerable and excluded children and adolescents have access to, remain and complete their early childhood development and pre-school and secondary education responding to their needs, potential and intercultural contexts	Percentage of children aged 36-59 months attending an educational programme by area Baseline National/urban/rural 17.5/22.2/11.6% (2011) Target: National: 50% (2022)	MICS	• Strengthened capacities of ECD and pre-school institutions to offer culturally appropriate services for young children and their families supported by efficient intersectoral coordination mechanisms and quality standards • Strengthened capacity of the Ministry of Public Education to offer relevant and culturally appropriate opportunities and alternatives to the most disadvantaged children and adolescents to successfully transition from primary to secondary education and complete the latter, while ensuring vocational alternatives to specific groups of adolescents	Line ministries, National Child Welfare Agency (PANI), selected municipalities, Institute of Municipal Development and Assistance (IFAM), academia, United Nations agencies and civil society	890	2 100	2 990
	Percentage of adolescents completing secondary education Baseline: 58% (2014) Target: 80% (2022)	Administrative education data					
	Early Childhood Development Index by area and household income (young children with adequate developmental standards) Baseline National/urban/rural: 81.1/82.9/78.8% Lowest/highest quintile: 69.4/93.4% (2011) Target: National/urban/rural: 91/92/88% Lowest/highest quintile: 79/95% (2022)	MICS					
Child protection: By 2022, the most vulnerable and excluded children and adolescents live in violence-free environments and benefit from effective, innovative and non-discriminatory policies and programmes that guarantee equality of opportunities for their	Proportion of cases of child maltreatment related to family conflicts, negligence and physical aggression Baseline: Family conflicts/negligence/physical aggression: 33/19/21% (2015) Target: Family conflicts/negligence/physical aggression: 10/5/5% (2022)	Administrative data (PANI)	• Strengthened the National and Local Integral Protection System and its normative framework to develop innovative, articulated and replicable models to prevent violence, prioritizing regions with the highest levels of social exclusion and environmental	Line ministries, selected municipalities, PANI, IFAM, General Directorate of Migration, National Children's Hospital, United Nations agencies and civil society	1 250	1 000	2 250

UNDAF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR); other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
integral protection	Percentage of children under 15 years who experienced any domestic physical punishment and/or psychological aggression in the past month, by sex Baseline: Total: 45.6% (boys 51.8% and girls 39.3%) (2011) Target: Total 23% (2022)	MICS	fragility • Children and adolescents are born, grow and develop in a violence-free society that has also modified its knowledge, perceptions and relationships regarding children based on a recognition and protection of their rights.				
	Percentage of adults who believe that physical punishment is required to raise/educate a child Baseline: 12% (2011) Target: 5% (2022)	MICS					
Social inclusion, public advocacy and communication: By 2022, children and adolescents exposed to high levels of social, economic and environmental vulnerability benefit from social protection policies and programmes in early childhood, education, protection and child poverty with a life cycle, equity, participatory, gender and sustainable development focus	Percentage of children and adolescents living in multidimenstional poverty Baseline: National: 34.4% (2016) Target: National: 27% (2022)	INEC	• Strengthened capacities of key social sector institutions to design, manage, monitor and evaluate policies in an efficient and innovative manner. • Improved institutional knowledge management capacities to facilitate monitoring, evaluation and decision-making related to the child-focused Sustainable Development Goals and the SNPI with a view to reducing the disparities that affect children and women • Social agreements generated that guarantee the rights of all children and the	Line ministries, National Council for Children and Adolescents, PANI, INEC, IFAM, academia, municipalities, Office of the Ombudsman, National Women's Institute, United Nations agencies and civil society	1 320	900	2 220
	Percentage of children under the age of 18 in households that received any type of social transfers in the previous three months Baseline/Target: To be developed in 2018	MICS					
	Public budget allocated to children and adolescents as a percentage of GDP Baseline/Target: Methodology to be developed	Ministry of Finance, Comptroller General of the Republic and					

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome, regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
	in 2019	MIDEPLAN	reduction of inequalities involving the public and private sectors, civil society, the media and children and adolescents				
	Number of adolescent girls and boys who participate in/lead civic engagement initiatives Baseline: 9,226 adolescents participated in these initiatives (2013) Target: 15,000 adolescents (2022)	Office of the Ombudsman					
Programme effectiveness	Number of participatory annual reviews Baseline: 1 per year Target: 1 per year	Internal UNICEF monitoring	• Effective and efficient programme management and operations support, financial resources stewardship and human resource management for country programme results achievement	Line ministries, United Nations agencies and civil society	790	-	790
Total resources					**4 250**	**4 000**	**8 250**

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United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
Second regular session 2017
12-15 September 2017
Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Dominican Republic

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for the Dominican Republic is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of $4,625,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $10,850,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2018 to 2022.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2017.

* E/ICEF/2017/14

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Programme rationale[1]

1. The Dominican Republic is a democratic upper-middle-income country. An island nation in the Caribbean Sea, it is vulnerable to natural disasters, hurricanes, drought, earthquake and shocks due to climate change. The population is 10 million, of whom 35 per cent are below the age of 18 years, with 79 per cent living in urban areas and 21 per cent in rural areas.

2. The country has experienced economic growth above the regional average over the last 15 years (average growth of 5 to 7 per cent since 2001) but significant inequality and exclusion gaps persist. Over the same period, 7 per cent of the population shifted from being classified as vulnerable to the middle class, compared to a shift of 41 per cent for the region. From 2005 to 2015, monetary poverty fell from 48 to 32.3 per cent, which represents a return to the level of 2003, when the financial crisis pushed 1 million people into poverty. According to the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in 2011 47.8 per cent of children and adolescents were multidimensionally poor and 52.6 per cent lived in poor households. The most vulnerable regions of the country are found primarily in the peri-urban areas of Santo Domingo and Santiago and in the provinces bordering Haiti.

3. The country's economic growth is not reflected in its social expenditure, which in 2013 were only 9 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) and are below the regional average of 19 per cent (2013-2014). Investment in childhood as a percentage of GDP rose by 59 per cent between 2009 and 2013 but remains below the regional average (3.6 per cent compared to 5.1 per cent); 86 per cent of this investment is allocated to education.

4. The Dominican Republic has made significant achievements in fulfilling the rights of children. From 2010 to 2014, registration of births of children under age 5 years rose from 82.2 to 88 per cent. Medical insurance coverage increased from 9 to 64 per cent from 2007 to 2016, and measles, polio, congenital rubella syndrome and iodine deficiency were eliminated. The prevalence of malnutrition in children under age 5 years fell from 11 to 7 per cent from 2002 to 2013. From 2010 to 2016, public spending on education increased from 1.5 to 3.8 per cent of GDP, enabling the Government to expand coverage of the extended school day and increase the number of schools. The Progress with Solidarity (*Progresando con Solidaridad* (PROSOLI)) conditional cash transfer programme expanded to cover 1.1 million children aged 0-17 years. In 2017, a plan to reduce extreme poverty was launched, including a component focusing on childhood and adolescence. An index of vulnerability to climate shocks was created, which will be useful in the prevention and mitigation of and response to disasters. The year 2017 also saw the implementation of the National Road Map for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Children and Adolescents.

5. Nonetheless, there are still significant obstacles to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to early childhood and the poorest

[1] The data cited in this section come from official sources, particularly the National Office of Statistics (2014 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), known as the *Encuesta Nacional de Hogares de Propósitos Múltiples* (ENHOGAR); 2013 Demographic and Health Survey; population estimates); the Ministry of the Economy, Planning and Development; Ministry of Health and the PROSOLI cash transfer programme. Two studies on child protection conducted by non-governmental organizations were also used. Regional data are sourced from the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean or the World Bank.

adolescents. Challenges in early childhood start during pregnancy: although prenatal care coverage is 98 per cent and the institutional birth rate is 97 per cent, the maternal mortality ratio is 101.8 per 100,000 live births,[7] which is higher than the Latin American average of 68. The neonatal mortality rate is 25 per 1,000 live births, almost triple the regional rate of 9. This rate has not changed during the last two decades, accounting for 80 per cent of infant mortality, and does not vary by socioeconomic level. The shortage of general and obstetric nursing staff creates a bottleneck that contributes to this situation. The rate of mother-to-child transmission of HIV is 5.4 per cent. Although the birth registry has offices in hospitals and registration is free, 12 per cent of children below the age of 5 years are not registered, rising to 28 per cent in the poorest quintile and to 43 per cent for children of mothers with no formal education. This is explained partly by the poor quality of service provision and the lack of coordination with health care staff.

6. Until 2014, when the National Plan for Early Childhood was introduced, only 40 per cent of children aged 3-4 years attended a preschool programme, falling to 16 per cent for the poorest. The plan provided integrated early childhood care and education services for an additional 100,000 children aged 0-5 years.

7. Although the net primary school attendance rate is 95 per cent, 4.4 per cent of children and adolescents are outside the system, and this rate is almost double for the poorest quintile (8.3 per cent). The net secondary school attendance rate is 61 per cent, but 14 per cent of adolescents do not attend school, rising to 27 per cent in the poorest quintile; 25 per cent are held back in basic education, which increases their risk of dropping out. Almost half of children and adolescents with disabilities do not attend school, and schools lack sufficient technical support to include them.

8. Quality is the main challenge in education. Children's learning outcomes are low primarily due to the low level of teacher training. Of the 36,884 professionals who graduated in 2014, only 31 per cent passed the Ministry of Education's competitive examinations. This is compounded by the limited coverage of early education (47 per cent). Child labour, adolescent pregnancies, child marriage and violence are external factors that affect learning and contribute to children's abandoning school.

9. The Dominican Republic faces major challenges in protecting children against violence, abuse and exploitation. Sixty-three per cent of children and adolescents aged 1-14 years are victims of violent discipline at home, and 13 per cent of those aged 5-17 years work, rising to 20 per cent in the poorest homes. The Committee on the Rights of the Child has expressed concern at the conditions of 3,589 children and adolescents in children's homes and 450 adolescents who have been deprived of liberty.

10. Five per cent of adolescents aged 15-19 years report having been a victim of sexual violence, and 29 per cent of victims of reported sexual crimes are minors. According to a study conducted in border communities, 36 per cent of adolescents reported having had sexual relations with adults in exchange for money or gifts.

11. Migration and the transit of people between Haiti and the Dominican Republic represent significant risks for children and adolescents, particularly those who are unaccompanied. The country has 524,632 immigrants, of whom 458,233 are from Haiti (78,880 under 20 years of age). Until 2015, the majority were not legal residents. The Plan for the Regularization of Foreigners was implemented in 2015, and 249,947 applications

[7] Ministry of Health, 2013.

were received, including for 10,315 children. In 2013 the Constitutional Court issued ruling 168-13, which considered the children of foreign parents without legal residence born in the country since 1929 to be foreigners. Act 169-14 limited the effects of this ruling, establishing that existing entries in the register of births would be respected, and creating a special procedure to regularize the legal position of those who are not registered. At least 55,000 birth registrations were ratified, and 8,700 people not previously registered applied to be recognized as residents. Anyone who has not applied under these procedures and does not have legal residency may be deported. UNICEF continues to support the Government's decision to avoid deporting children, adolescents, pregnant women and families with children.

12. Accumulated factors of inequity have a significant impact on the lives of adolescent girls, increasing their vulnerability: 37 per cent of young women were married before age 18 years, and 12 per cent before the age of 15 years. These rates rise in the poorest quintile to 59 and 23 per cent respectively. The country has one of the highest rates of adolescent pregnancy in the region, with 90 births for every 1,000 women aged 15-19 years; 21 per cent of young Dominican women became mothers before the age of 18 years, rising to 40 per cent in the poorest quintile and 55 per cent among young women with no formal education. Gender inequality and the impact of cultural patterns compound this situation.

13. Despite significant efforts by the Government, important barriers remain: limited investment in childhood and adolescence; poor access to and quality of social services; inadequate intersectoral coordination; poor quality of information systems; and weak mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of public policy for children and adolescents. These issues are compounded by discriminatory cultural patterns and social practices that reproduce gender inequality, sexism and the social tolerance of practices that violate the rights of children and adolescents.

14. Joint work between the Government and UNICEF has generated good practices to overcome some of these barriers. In selected hospitals, low quality of care was identified as the principal cause of maternal and neonatal deaths, and an initiative was successfully implemented for the continuous improvement of the quality of care, based on the identification of bottlenecks in each hospital and monitoring of adherence to maternal and neonatal care standards and protocols.

15. Evaluation of a joint birth registration initiative of the Central Electoral Board and UNICEF showed the importance of implementing continuous monitoring of civil registry offices in hospitals, training health staff and informing mothers. As a result of this intervention, the percentage of births registered in selected hospitals rose from 41 to 67 per cent from 2012 to 2015.

Programme priorities and partnerships

16. Within the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018–2022, the UNICEF country programme will support the Dominican Republic to ensure that the most vulnerable children and adolescents effectively exercise their rights. The programme will contribute to achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, meeting the targets of the National Development Strategy 2030, implementing the Multi-year Plan for the Public Sector and supporting national responses to the recommendations arising from relevant treaty bodies.

17. The programme is based on the principles of justice, social inclusion, gender equality and protection against violence, and will focus on provinces bordering Haiti, rural communities and peri-urban areas of Santo Domingo and Santiago. Priority will be given to communities included in government programmes to combat extreme poverty and expand social protection. The programme will focus on young children and adolescent girls, due to the human rights violations experienced by these groups. The programme will involve innovative initiatives which, following evaluation, may be scaled up.

18. The programme is aligned to the UNICEF Gender Action Plan, including a new intersectoral model to prevent child marriage, adolescent pregnancy and HIV, to be implemented in coordination with government programmes for social protection and to reduce extreme poverty. A gender focus will be mainstreamed in health, early childhood and in the elimination of violence in order to promote cultural patterns that recognize the rights of girls.

19. Joint work with the United Nations system, other international cooperation bodies and civil society organizations will be strengthened, as will South–South and triangular cooperation. Alliances will be established with the private sector to promote corporate social responsibility in favour of the rights of children and adolescents, and to ensure support for advocacy to achieve programme results and to mobilize national investment in children. The commitment of ordinary citizens and the participation of children and adolescents will be promoted.

Social inclusion

20. The programme will help the most vulnerable children and adolescents, particularly girls, to benefit from policies and access high-quality public programmes that promote social inclusion and are supported by Dominican society. The component will support the country in implementing strategic area 2 of the National Development Strategy to achieve a society with equal rights and opportunities. It will contribute to the inclusion of relevant goals and indicators for childhood in national monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals and promote the achievement of Goals 1, 5 and 10. It will support implementation of General Comment No. 19 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on public budgeting for the realization of children's rights

21. The key bottlenecks to social inclusion are: (a) lack of a conducive environment, as reflected in the relative weakness of the national statistics system, the limited availability of data on multidimensional child poverty and studies of the situation of children and adolescents, low investment in childhood and lack of regular measurement; (b) limited coverage of social programmes and poverty reduction programmes, including issues that are not addressed such as child marriage; and (c) cultural patterns that promote the reproduction of systems of exclusion and injustice that justify and promote child marriage

22. Working in partnership with national institutions, the following strategies will be implemented:

(a) Strengthening national capacities to produce disaggregated, regular, timely, high-quality data on childhood, including data on the vulnerability of children and adolescents to the effects of climate change. The knowledge generated will support public policy development, decision-making and improved awareness on the part of civil society;

(b) Strengthening national capacities to measure and analyse investment in childhood. Advocacy will focus on increasing such investments , particularly in sectors

with lower levels of investment and in the poorest regions, and to ensure that investments in children will be protected from financial and economic volatility and from the need to respond to humanitarian emergencies;

(c) Strengthening government capacities to implement the social protection programme and the extreme poverty reduction strategy so that: (i) multidimensional child poverty is measured regularly; (ii) coverage of the PROSOLI conditional cash transfer programme is increased, in particular for children with disabilities and families whose head of household has no identify document; (iii) coordination and implementation of social programmes is promoted as part of the humanitarian response to emergencies; and (iv) a new intersectoral model for the prevention of child marriage and adolescent pregnancy is designed and implemented, in coordination with all programme components;

(d) Support for mass media campaigns to sensitize citizens regarding the rights of vulnerable children, particularly adolescent girls. The participation of children and adolescents in peri-urban areas will be promoted;

(e) Private sector participation will be fostered to include children's rights within corporate social responsibility programmes, to ensure support for advocacy and to achieve programme results, and to mobilize resources for UNICEF.

23. In order for this programme to be successful:, (a) the Government must maintain its interest in measuring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, investing in childhood and expanding the social protection programme; (b) the Government must successfully implement the extreme poverty reduction strategy; and (c) society and the private sector continue to collaborate with UNICEF.

24. The principal partners of the component are the National Statistics Office, Office for Social Policy Coordination, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, Ministry of Treasury, Directorate General of Special Programmes of the Presidency, civil society organizations, the private sector, the media and opinion leaders.

Area of protection

25. This component will help to ensure that vulnerable children and adolescents exercise their rights to their identity, to live in families and to be protected from violence, sexual abuse and exploitation. Efforts will be focused on adolescent girls from the poorest families, and on children and adolescents in transit between Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The programme will respond to the observations and recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and will support the country in achieving thematic areas 1 and 7 of the National Development Strategy and Sustainable Development Goals 5, 10 and 16.

26. The main issues to be addressed are: the lack of a favourable environment to overcome legal gaps in the birth registration system and establish a minimum age for marriage; lack of coverage of foster family programmes and programmes to prevent violence and protect the victims of sexual exploitation and abuse; poor quality of services due to limited training of officers; insufficient demand for services by families; and cultural patterns that favour violence and social acceptance of violence.

27. Working in partnership with national institutions, the following strategies will be implemented:

(a) National and local capacities of child protection systems will be strengthened in order to: (i) increase the coverage and quality of services to protect children and adolescents, particularly adolescent girls who are victims of violence, abuse and sexual exploitation; (ii) support the prosecution of these crimes; and (iii) reduce the incidence of institutionalization of children and adolescents. UNICEF will advocate promotion of the reforms and legislative initiatives required to ensure an effective protection system, and support awareness-raising campaigns to generate changes to the cultural practices that promote violence;

(b) Advocacy and awareness-raising will be directed to the communities and the tourism-related private sector, and to promote intersectoral work with the institutions involved in the National Road Map for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Children and Adolescents;

(c) Technical assistance will be provided to the Central Electoral Board to reduce under-recording of births of children through the nationwide initiative to promote registration in hospitals immediately after birth. Late registration (more than 60 days after birth) will be supported in the poorest and border communities, with efforts focused on the children of adolescent mothers;

(d) To protect children and adolescents in transit between the Dominican Republic and Haiti, technical assistance will be provided to the institutions responsible for migration and border security and to border communities for the establishment of local child protection mechanisms. Alliances will be strengthened and bilateral collaboration between the two countries will be promoted. UNICEF will continue to support the Government's decision not to deport children and adolescents.

28. Assistance will be provided to protect children in emergency situations, whether during the preparation, response or recovery phase.

29. The factors critical to the success of the programme are that the Government continues to prioritize the implementation of the National Road Map for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Children and Adolescents, universal registration and protection of children in migratory transit.

30. The principle programme partners will be the Public Prosecutor's Office, Central Electoral Board and the National Council for Children and Adolescents.

Children survive and thrive

31. This component will contribute to national efforts to ensure that pregnant women, newborns and adolescent girls have access to high-quality services to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality, the transmission of HIV and adolescent pregnancy.

32. The programme will respond to the observations and recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to guarantee the population's right of access to an integrated health model and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 3 and 5.

33. This component will address the lack of a conducive environment as reflected in a limited public budget; weaknesses in the management of health services and poor quality of care due to failure of staff to adhere to protocols and quality standards and to obstetric violence; limited availability of supplies and equipment, especially for counselling adolescent girls; limited availability of information for women about their health and the health of newborns; and unenforceability of rights.

34. In partnership with health institutions, UNICEF will support the following strategies:

(a) Technical assistance to implement the model of continuous improvement of the quality of maternal and neonatal health care. UNICEF was asked by the Government to support this model in 12 public hospitals to generate conclusive evidence of its validity. The approach strengthens the technical capacities of hospital managers and health staff to implement improvement plans for each hospital, which are based on established care standards and protocols. Intensive monitoring and motivation of staff are key to its success;

(b) UNICEF will support the capacities of national and regional health services to extend the approach throughout the public health network. UNICEF will provide support to the Ministry of Public Health for monitoring and evaluation of the hospitals in order to certify those that have achieved the targets;

(c) Advocacy will be directed at increasing the health budget, with specific safeguards for funds for maternal and neonatal health, and at including quality indicators in service management contracts of health insurers and hospital management, increasing the number of nursing staff and promoting training in obstetric nursing;

(d) Capacity-building and empowerment of civil society to enforce the rights of women to humane, non-violent care before, during and after childbirth, and to increase families' knowledge of care for pregnant women and newborns.

35. Health interventions will contribute to the implementation of the intersectoral model for the prevention of child marriage and adolescent pregnancy. There will be ongoing care and support for children with congenital Zika syndrome.

36. The critical factors in the success of the programme are the Government's continued political will to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality and to implement the policy on public health quality management.

37. The capacities of institutions to prevent and respond to epidemics will be strengthened, including support for existing coordination mechanisms for water, sanitation and hygiene, and for nutrition.

38. The principal partners of the programme are the Ministry of Public Health, the National Health Service and civil society.

Learning for all

39. This component will support national efforts to ensure that children and adolescents have access to early childhood care and education services that are of high quality, relevant, inclusive and integrated.

40. The programme will respond to the observations and recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and will support the country in achieving thematic area 2 of the National Development Strategy and Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 5.

41. The key issues to be addressed are: (a) the lack of a favourable enabling environment due to insufficient inter-institutional coordination on early childhood and insufficient supervision and monitoring of service providers; (b) poor coverage of integrated care services in early childhood and of inclusive educational centres for children and adolescents with disabilities; (c) poor quality of education due to insufficient opportunities for education and training of teachers, limited pedagogical tools for inclusion of children and adolescents with disabilities and limited capacity to manage conflicts and violence at

school; (d) limited demand from families for integrated services for early childhood; and (e) school dropout among the poorest adolescents, especially girls.

42. Working in partnership with national institutions, the UNICEF will implement the following strategies:

(a) UNICEF will support improved access to, relevance and quality of integrated services for early childhood, particularly for children with disabilities, through: advocacy for expansion of coverage based on the effectiveness of investments in early childhood; strengthening the capacity of staff to promote changes in child-rearing patterns that affect the development of young children, including gender stereotypes and violent discipline; promoting increased demand for access to service by families through awareness raising activities; and fostering local inter-institutional coordination;

(b) Strengthening the capacities of the Ministry of Education and of schools in selected areas to improve the inclusion of children and adolescents with disabilities, and to ensure continued attendance and learning, by: (i) improving the capacities of teachers, focusing on early childhood education and the early years of primary school, with technical assistance to implement a new model for teaching of literacy and mathematics; (ii) improved teaching support in the classroom; (iii) technical assistance to improve monitoring of early warnings of the risk of academic failure; and (iv) technical assistance to resolve conflicts in schools through implementation of existing regulations for harmonious coexistence in education centres, to improve and implement pedagogic guidelines for the educational inclusion of children and adolescents with disabilities, and to improve retention or reincorporation in secondary education, primarily of the poorest adolescent girls, within the framework of the new intersectoral model to prevent early relationships, adolescent pregnancy and HIV described above.

43. In support of the Ministry of Education's emergency risk management programme, UNICEF will advocate the provision of educational services to children and adolescents and strengthen prevention, response and recovery mechanisms for the entire school community.

44. The factors critical to the success of the programme are the continued prioritization of the improved quality of education and of early childhood, and the maintenance or increase of investments in education.

45. The principal programme partners will be the Ministry of Education, which includes the National Institute for Early Childhood, and the Dominican Initiative for a Quality Education for identifying public policy and monitoring priorities.

Programme effectiveness

46. This component will support all activities related to programme implementation and management, including technical and strategic assistance. It covers the cost of programme coordination and cross-cutting issues such as performance monitoring and implementing a gender focus across sectors.

Summary budget table

Programme component	*(In thousands of United States dollars)*		
	Regular resources	*Other resources*	*Total*
Social inclusion	1 625	2 550	4 175
Child protection	1 000	3 700	4 700
Children survive and thrive	1 000	2 000	3 000
Learning for all	800	2 450	3 250
Programme effectiveness	200	150	350
Total	**4 625**	**10 850**	**15 475**

Programme and risk management

47. This country programme document summarizes the UNICEF contribution to the achievement of national results and is the principle mechanism for accountability to the Executive Board with respect to the alignment of results and resources allocated to the programme at the national level. The responsibilities of administrators nationally and regionally and at headquarters with respect to country programmes, are defined in the policies and procedures regarding the organization's programmes and operations.

48. UNICEF will participate in the Technical Committee for UNDAF Monitoring consisting of the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development and the inter-agency group of the United Nations system, chaired jointly by the Government and the Resident Coordinator. UNICEF will participate in inter-agency working groups that plan and monitor UNDAF activities. UNICEF will assume the leadership of some of these groups.

49. Regular oversight of UNICEF programmes will be conducted with the ministries with primary responsibility for implementing programmes, in coordination with the Directorate General for Multilateral Cooperation of the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development.

50. UNICEF will ensure full compliance with the harmonized approach to cash transfers and will participate, along with other United Nations agencies, in the implementation of measures to guarantee the efficient and transparent use of financial and material resources. Efforts to strengthen the capacities of local stakeholders and to promote alliances with civil society organizations will continue. UNICEF will drive joint United Nations system programmes and will support the implementation of the "Delivering as one" standard operating procedures.

51. Potential programme risks include lower levels of funding during certain periods and the inadequate involvement of key stakeholders. To mitigate these risks, the participation of duty bearers, the maintenance of cooperation with all levels of Government and strengthened promotion and protection of investments targeted at childhood will be guaranteed. Strategies to raise funds from multi-donor trust funds, local representatives of donor countries and the private sector will be implemented. This includes maintaining an updated risk prevention and reduction plan in programme components, in coordination with other United Nations agencies.

Monitoring and evaluation

52. The integrated monitoring and evaluation plan will be implemented at the three levels of the UNICEF country programme, the UNDAF and national efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. At the programme performance level, there will be monthly monitoring of management indicators, joint monitoring visits with state authorities to confirm progress towards outcomes, and biannual reviews with partners to monitor progress and bottlenecks. This plan will allow the necessary programme adjustments to be made, and will ultimately complement UNDAF review processes.

53. As a member of the UNDAF monitoring and evaluation group, UNICEF will monitor progress toward the achievement of joint outcomes, facilitate analysis and make recommendations through programme working groups, including recommendations for emergency prevention and response.

54. UNICEF, together with its United Nations partners, will support the interministerial commission for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals and the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development in their efforts to mainstream the Goals in the National Development Strategy, and in the preparation of annual progress reports on the strategy and childhood-related Goals. The national statistics system will be supported to enable monitoring of the situation of children, particularly of children and adolescents in situations of the greatest vulnerability.

55. UNICEF will conduct three evaluations to increase programme effectiveness and sustainability, focusing on comprehensive care in early childhood, the model for teaching literacy and numeracy, and the new intersectoral model for preventing early relationships, adolescent pregnancy and HIV, as outlined in the costed evaluation plan.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Dominican Republic – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2018-2022

Relevant Convention on the Rights of the Child articles: 2 to 7, 12, 13, 18, 23, 24, 27 to 31, 34-37, 39, 40.
Sustainable Development Goals : 1 to 5, 10, 16, 17

Related draft UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 Goal Areas:[1] 1, 2, 3, 5.

National Development Strategy: Areas 1, 2, 3.

UNDAF outcomes involving UNICEF:

Area 2: Outcomes 3, 4, 5, 6.

Area 3: Outcomes 7, 8.

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome, regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (in thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
1. By 2022 the most vulnerable children and adolescents, and especially girls, will have access to public policies and programmes that promote social inclusion and are supported by Dominican society	Percentage of children aged 0 to 17 years who live in multidimensional poverty B: 47.8% T: 43%	'Social Panorama of Latin America 2013' (ECLAC) National report on multidimensional child poverty	1.1. By 2022, the national statistical system will have strengthened its capacity to generate data and analytical evidence regarding the situation of children and adolescents 1.2. By 2022, public policies, social protection programmes, and the extreme poverty reduction strategy will have the capacity to monitor investment in children, and respond adequately to the needs of the most vulnerable children, especially adolescent girls	Vice-Presidency, PROSOLI, Directorate General of Special Programmes of the Presidency, National Statistics Office, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, universities, private sector, media	1 625	2 550	4 175
	Percentage of public budget allocated to children and adolescents as a percentage of GDP B: 3.6% T: 3.9%	National report on budget implementation					
	Percentage of those below the age of 18 years who live in households that received	Report of Office for Social Policy Coordination					

[1] The final version will be presented to the UNICEF Executive Board for approval at its second regular session of 2017.

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
	some kind of social transfer during the last three months B: 31.4% T: 34%	Report on extreme poverty reduction	1.3: By 2022, Dominican society will be aware of and mobilized in favour of children's rights, especially of girls				
	Proportion of women aged 20- 24 years who are married or in a relationship before the age of 18 years B: 35.9% T: 30% Before age of 15 years B: 12.3% T: 10.3%	ENHOGAR/MICS					
2. By 2022, the most vulnerable children and adolescents will be able to exercise their rights to an identity, to live in a family and to be protected against violence	Percentage of children aged 1- 14 years who have been subject to psychological or physical abuse during the past month B: 62.9% (2014) T: 50% (2022)	ENHOGAR/MICS	**2.1:** By 2022, protection systems, including the legal system, will have the capacity to improve the coverage and quality of services, increase the protection of children against violence, abuse and sexual exploitation **2.2:** By 2022, the country will have the capacity to reduce under-recording of births in under-fives, supporting the nationwide implementation of the initiative for timely registration in hospitals **2.3:** By 2022, Dominican institutions will have the capacity to protect children and adolescents in a situation of transit and migration between Haiti and the Dominican Republic	Public Prosecutor's Office, legal authorities, National Council for Children and Adolescents, National Association of Hotels and Restaurants, Central Electoral Board, Vice-Presidency, Ministry of the Presidency, Directorate General for Migration, NGOs	1 000	3 700	4 700
	Percentage of children in the care of foster families (as a proportion of total number of children in formal alternative care) B: 0% (2015) T: 20% (2022)	National Council for Children and Adolescents administrative registers					
	Percentage of children aged below 5 years whose births are registered B: 88% (2014) T: 95% (2022)	ENHOGAR/MICS					
3. By 2022, pregnant women, newborns and adolescents will access high-quality health services	Percentage of children born in public hospitals that follow standard protocols on maternal and neonatal care B: 6% (2014)	Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance administrative records	**3.1:** By 2022, the country will have the capacity to implement a model for maternal and neonatal health services that is consistent with quality care standards.	Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance National Health Service	1 000	2 000	3 000

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR); other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
	T: 50% Neonatal mortality rate B: 25 per 1000 live births (2014) Target: 18 per 1000		including prevention of obstetric violence				
4. By 2022, children will have access to high-quality, relevant, inclusive integrated care services for early childhood and education services	Percentage of children aged 36 to 59 months that attend early childhood programmes B: 39.8% (2014) T: (2022)	Ministry of Education administrative records	**4.1:** By 2022, national institutions will have the capacity to improve access to, relevance and quality of integrated services for early childhood, especially for children with disabilities **4.2:** By 2022, the Ministry of Education and schools in selected areas will have the capacity to improve the learning, completion and inclusion of children with disabilities	Ministry of Education National Institute for Early Childhood, National Institute for Student Welfare universities, National Council on Disability, NGOs	800	2 450	3 250
	Percentage of children who achieve a minimum level of competency in literacy and mathematics in primary education B: (2013) Third year Literacy: 9.41% Mathematics: 6.08% Sixth year Literacy: 20.62% Mathematics: 12.35% T Third year Literacy: 15% Mathematics: 10% Sixth year Literacy: 25% Mathematics: 15%	Ministry of Education national evaluation					
	Proportion of children with disabilities who attend regular school compared to special school B: 5.8% T: 10%	Ministry of Education administrative records					
Programme effectiveness: programme coordination and cross-cutting issues are ensured such as performance monitoring and mainstreaming gender focus					200	150	350

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicator baselines (B) and targets (T)	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)	
					RR	OR	Total
Total resources					**4 625**	**10 850**	**15 475**

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United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
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Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Djibouti

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Djibouti is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of $5,735,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $19,500,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2018 to 2022.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2017.

* E/ICEF/2017/14

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Programme rationale

1. The population of Djibouti in 2017 is estimated at just over 1.02 million,[1] with 39.5 per cent aged under 18, 20 per cent of people nomadic, and 71 per cent living in urban areas. In recent years, Djibouti has experienced an average economic growth rate of 5 per cent and gross domestic product per capita reached US$1,609 in 2015. Unemployment among youth (15-35 years) stands at 71.9 per cent[2] and female labour force participation at only 12 per cent (2010). The effects of climate change are evident through a continuing chronic drought that started in 2008. Djibouti is an important transit point for migrants and is host to around 27,000 refugees and asylum seekers,[3] placing pressure on social services. The Government's medium-term vision for development is expressed in the Strategy of Accelerated Growth and Promotion of Employment (SCAPE 2015-2019).

2. According to the Department of Statistics and Demographic Studies, there are significant inequalities in wealth, with an overall poverty rate of 34 per cent in the capital, Djibouti City, and 63 per cent in other parts of the country. Rural children are the most disadvantaged in terms of access to basic social services. Gender, food insecurity, poverty, disability and a nomadic lifestyle further exacerbate their vulnerability and create multiple dimensions of overlapping deprivations. Of the five regions, Obock is the most deprived, followed by Dikhil and Tadjoura. Geographically dispersed dwellings in these regions makes access to health care and schooling particularly difficult. Balbala, a peri-urban suburb of Djibouti City, is also characterized by pockets of extreme poverty.

3. The country has comprehensive strategies to address child and maternal health, but with a low health sector budget allocation of 8 per cent, implementation remains a challenge. Between 2002 and 2012, infant and child mortality rates declined from 99 to 58, and from 127 to 68 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively.[4] However, neonatal mortality, which accounts for more than half of under-five deaths (36/1,000 live births[5]), barely decreased in this period, due in part to the low coverage of health interventions in disadvantaged areas. Nevertheless, the country has seen increasing coverage with three doses of combined diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis vaccine (DTP3) from 83 per cent in 2008 to 91 per cent in 2014.[6]

4. Between 1990 and 2012, maternal mortality decreased from 746 to 383 deaths per 100,000 live births[7] due in part to an increase in deliveries assisted by qualified personnel from 74 per cent in 2002 to 87 per cent in 2012.[8] Only 23 per cent of pregnant women attend at least four antenatal consultations.[9] An important factor underlying the high mortality rates is low levels of knowledge around key family practices (KFPs) and danger signs in pregnancy, compounded by traditional beliefs and social norms, including those associated with gender. Djibouti has a generalized HIV epidemic, with 1.6 per cent HIV prevalence among pregnant women aged 15 to 24 and an estimated rate of mother-to-child

[1] Projection based on the 2009 census.
[2] DISED. Labour Survey 2015.
[3] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2017.
[4] Pan Arab Project for Family Health (PAPFAM) 2012.
[5] PAPFAM 2012.
[6] Directorate of Statistics and Demographic Studies. National immunization coverage survey, 2008 and 2014.
[7] PAPFAM 2012.
[8] Ibid.
[9] Ibid.

transmission of HIV of 19 per cent.[10] Around 31 per cent of HIV-positive pregnant women have access to antiretrovirals[11], less than 40 per cent of health facilities offer HIV paediatric treatment, and stigma around HIV remains an issue.

5. The nutrition sector remains highly dependent on funding from development partners. The National Nutrition Policy does not provide an adequate response to the current challenges and there is no national strategy for the prevention of malnutrition. Further bottlenecks include the limited capacity of stakeholders at central and decentralized levels to coordinate the National Nutrition Programme and to implement preventive and curative nutrition interventions.

6. The prevalence of global acute malnutrition increased from 10 per cent in 2010 to an alarming 17.8 per cent in 2013. The rate of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) is 5.7 per cent.[12] Stunting among children under five is above 40 per cent in the Dikhil, Obock and Tadjoura regions. Although coverage of services for management of SAM is higher than 90 per cent, the services require quality improvements. Household feeding practices remain a concern: the exclusive breastfeeding rate is 13.4 per cent and only 4.1 per cent of children aged 6-23 months have an acceptable dietary intake.[13] Given the low coverage of vitamin A and iron/folic acid supplementation, it is likely that children, adolescents and women of childbearing age suffer from multiple micronutrient deficiencies.

7. The rate of access to drinking water increased from 78 per cent in 1990 to 90 per cent in 2015.[14] However, significant disparities exist between urban and rural areas regarding access to water (97 per cent and 65 per cent, respectively) and sanitation (60 per cent and 5 per cent, respectively). Water supply is available in 88 per cent of schools, and 81 per cent have toilets. Limited knowledge, cultural barriers and a nomadic lifestyle are bottlenecks to improved hygiene practices, leading to open defecation rates of 20 per cent nationally and 76 per cent in rural areas.[15]

8. While a policy framework exists for water supply in rural areas, it requires updating and budget allocations for water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are insufficient. Additional bottlenecks include the lack of official standards for water quality control, and of a strategy for community management of water points; an inadequate information management system; and the limited number and quality of technical and management staff.

9. The education sector is relatively strong in terms of evidence-based planning, coordination with partners and government budget allocation. Nevertheless, equitable access and education quality remain challenges.

10. Participation in pre-primary education – estimated at 7 per cent for boys and girls[16] – is mainly a private urban phenomenon, and the country lacks a national policy addressing early childhood education (ECE). According to routine statistics, the gross enrolment rate in primary school was 78 per cent in 2016.[17] The majority of out-of-school children (20 per

[10] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, Global AIDS Response Progress Report 2014.
[11] Ibid.
[12] Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) Survey 2013.
[13] Global Analysis of Vulnerability, Food Security and Nutrition 2014.
[14] WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation 2015 Report.
[15] Ibid.
[16] Ministry of Education 2015/16.
[17] Ibid.

cent, according to government estimates) are those with special needs, children from nomadic communities, girls in rural areas, children of vulnerable families, and migrant and refugee children. While officially registered refugee children can attend school in camps, non-registered children cannot. The Ministry of Education estimates the transition rate from primary to lower secondary school at 62 per cent (61 per cent for girls) for 2015/16. It is at this stage that most children, especially girls, drop out of school without having acquired the necessary learning for gainful employment, or the skills to protect themselves against risks, including HIV. The quality of teaching and poor learning achievement remain challenges due to inadequate teacher training. A life skills programme for adolescents has been initiated, but needs strengthening to reduce drop-out rates, reach more out-of-school adolescents and better prepare adolescents for entry into the labour market.

11. Progress has been made in creating an enabling environment for child protection through the adoption in 2015 of a Child Protection Code, which is aligned with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In addition, the Ministry of Women and Families, in collaboration with other stakeholders, has mobilized community-based committees to identify at-risk children and refer them to appropriate services. Nevertheless, the delivery of child protection services is constrained by limited law enforcement, inadequately skilled human resources and prevailing harmful social norms, among other factors. These limitations are especially acute in the most disadvantaged regions. The lack of a national child protection strategy also hinders progress and the child justice system is still in its infancy.

12. The rate of birth registration is 79 per cent in rural areas compared to 97 per cent in urban areas.[18] Furthermore, 38 per cent of children aged 2-14 reportedly experienced some form of violence discipline by a member of the household,[19] with boys more likely to be victims, yet the provision of formal psychosocial care for victims of violence is very limited. An estimated 20.6 per cent of girls in the Arta and Dikhil regions are married before age 18 and the prevalence of female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) is 78 per cent among women of all age groups and 29 per cent among girls aged 0-9.[20]

13. To mitigate increasing inequalities in income and access to social services, a national safety net strategy was developed in 2012, funded mainly by the World Bank. Subsequently, a universal health insurance scheme and the National Family Solidarity Programme were introduced. However, strategies for targeting beneficiaries remain insufficiently developed, there is no national social protection policy and the social workforce is inadequate. Safety nets and sectoral budgets are planned with limited analysis of how they can impact the lives of children and women.

14. A lesson learned from the country programme for 2013-2017 is that poor family care practices remain major bottlenecks to achieving results. Although a communication for development (C4D) strategy on maternal and neonatal health exists and a pool of trainers is available at national level, there is limited capacity for effective planning and monitoring at decentralized levels. This points to the need for enhanced investments in social and behaviour change communication, including a cultural shift from top-down dissemination of information to community-based participatory approaches through frontline workers and evidence-based planning of C4D interventions. Additionally, data from national household surveys were not sufficiently analysed to pinpoint inequities and deprivations. Therefore,

[18] PAPFAM 2012.
[19] Ibid.
[20] Ibid.

the new programme will support capacity-building in advanced data analysis and provide continuing support to administrative data systems.

Programme priorities and partnerships

15. The country programme is fully aligned with the country's long-term development plan, Djibouti 2035 Vision, and the objectives of SCAPE (2015-2019). It is guided by the Sustainable Development Goals and the draft UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, with special attention to equity, gender and resilience. The country programme will contribute to three outcomes of the draft United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), 2018-2022: strengthening social services and human capital development; promoting good governance and responsive institutions; and building resilience and promoting equitable regional development.

16. The overall vision of the country programme is to ensure that children's rights to survival, development and protection are realized through access to quality social services and the adoption of healthy and protective behaviours. The programme will have a particular focus on vulnerable children living the most deprived areas, including Dikhil, Obock and Tadjoura, the peri-urban area of Balbala and other pockets of deprivation.

17. The programme will focus on three key priorities that emerged as challenges from the situation analysis: (a) reducing under-five and maternal mortality through an integrated approach focusing on the first 1,000 days of a child's life, from conception to the child's second birthday, combining health, HIV, nutrition and WASH interventions; (b) providing equitable access to quality education, particularly for deprived children; and (c) reducing children's vulnerabilities by providing access to child and social protection services, including to victims of violence. In order to address children's rights holistically across the life cycle, integrated packages of interventions will be supported on early childhood development (ECD) and adolescent programming, using the education sector as the entry point. Given the country's vulnerability to climate change and recurring natural disasters, the programme will support interventions across the continuum of development, prevention, preparedness and response.

18. Results will be achieved through a combination of strategies specific to each outcome and to different programming contexts (rural, urban, pastoralist), and gender will be mainstreamed into interventions across sectors. Innovative approaches will be used to better reach remote rural as well as nomadic pastoralist populations. In all sectors, support will be provided to modelling of service delivery and community engagement approaches around KFPs, particularly in hard-to-reach areas. By generating evidence, UNICEF will demonstrate the effectiveness of its approaches, which will be used in advocacy with the Government for adequate resource allocations and scale-up of interventions. Accountability to affected populations, with an emphasis on strengthening community engagement and participation, will be essential to ensure programmes are relevant and appropriate and that they meet the needs and priorities of vulnerable and affected groups.

19. Multisectoral approaches and programmatic convergence will be prioritized, with a view to creating synergies and improving cost-effectiveness. Examples are the "first 1,000 days approach", integrated programming for adolescent development, and promotion of KFPs positive parenting practices across programme components. These synergies will be created by mapping sectoral priorities and identifying packages of interventions for each of the thematic areas.

20. UNICEF will continue strategic partnerships with other United Nations agencies, bilateral and multilateral partners, NGOs, civil society organizations (CSOs), the private sector and academic institutions, and will actively participate in national aid coordination mechanisms.

21. The country programme will be operationalized through four programme components.

22. The *child survival and development* programme component aims to ensure that more mothers and children, particularly those living in disadvantaged areas, survive and thrive, with an emphasis on the first 1,000 days of a child's life. This will be achieved through a mix of implementation strategies including capacity-building for improved service delivery and community-based approaches to promote KFPs and demand for services.

23. By focusing on the first 1,000 days, health and nutrition outcomes for infants and young children will be maximized to generate a lasting effect on their lifelong health through a package of low-cost, high-impact interventions, including preventive measures. UNICEF will advocate for engagement by Djibouti in global initiatives, including the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, and for enhanced budget allocations to health, nutrition and WASH.

24. To this end, a coordinated capacity-building approach will be implemented to enable frontline health workers to better manage child and maternal health and nutrition interventions. This includes capacity-building for the treatment of childhood illnesses, elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV interventions and paediatric antiretroviral therapy (ART), treatment of SAM, micronutrient supplementation and deworming, and the promotion of key behaviours relating to health and nutrition. At central level, UNICEF will strengthen the health system's capacity to manage and monitor stocks of vaccines, essential medicines and nutritional products, and conduct evidence-based planning, monitoring and budgeting.

25. UNICEF together with other partners, will support the Government in implementing the National Health Development Plan 2018-2022, with a focus on the delivery of a package of high-impact interventions for mothers, newborns, children and adolescents. This will include strengthening the Reach Every Community approach in immunization, with a particular focus on linking health facilities with communities and reducing dropouts. In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF will improve decentralized management of the health system, complemented by a focus on integrated community case management and a referral system from the community to higher-level health facilities. The programme will also advocate for increasing fiscal space to allow deployment of additional health workers, and will continue to support the country's partnership with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

26. UNICEF will support the Government in implementing the Elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV Acceleration Plan 2015-2020, in partnership with United Nations agencies and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund), as part of health systems strengthening. This will be achieved by strengthening the capacity of health workers to focus on at-risk mothers through monitoring and supervision, along with the provision of ART to HIV-positive pregnant women and infants by improving availability of supplies, stock management and increasing the number of health facilities offering treatment. UNICEF will support strengthening of HIV testing and counselling services for pregnant women and infants who have been exposed to the virus.

27. To strengthen families' awareness and knowledge of healthy and hygienic behaviours and appropriate care-seeking behaviours, UNICEF will strengthen the capacity of

community health workers, community management committees, community volunteers and CSOs to raise awareness of childhood illnesses and malnutrition and promote KFPs. This will include demand for vaccination, pregnancy care and assisted delivery, HIV testing services, exclusive breastfeeding, appropriate complementary feeding, handwashing with soap and the use of latrines. In order to eliminate open defecation in the targeted areas, community-led approaches to total sanitation will be promoted in line with the UNICEF global WASH strategy. Additionally, the promotion of a prioritized set of KFPs that are crucial to the '1,000 days' approach will be rolled out through community management committees to empower communities to engage in a movement around social and behavioural change. The approach will also leverage social support through influential community actors, and empower communities to adopt positive behaviours and address community-level barriers to gender equality.

28. UNICEF will strengthen the quality of care for and efforts to prevent stunting, by updating the National Nutrition Policy and developing a strategy on the prevention of malnutrition. Micronutrient supplementation and deworming campaigns will be supported, including the procurement of supplies and training of health workers.

29. UNICEF will support women's associations to conduct home visits to ensure that severely malnourished under-five children complete treatment and to strengthen the skills of health workers to treat SAM. Technical support will be provided for the development of a pre-service national curriculum for frontline workers on integrated SAM management. UNICEF and development partners will ensure the uninterrupted provision of nutritional products, essential medicines and equipment for SAM management, and will advocate with the Government for gradual increases in budgetary allocations to absorb the cost of these items.

30. In collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP), the Food and Agriculture Organization and WHO, as co-lead of the nutrition cluster, UNICEF will provide technical and financial support for the coordination of nutrition preparedness and response activities as well as strengthening of human resource capacities and logistics.

31. The programme will provide support for the development of a multi-year national action plan for rural water supply and a national protocol on water quality, and will advocate for a pro-poor pricing strategy in urban areas and a fundraising strategy for the sector. UNICEF will also strengthen the government's technical capacities for efficient resource utilization, evidence-based planning and real-time monitoring, taking into account the differential needs of rural and urban communities.

32. UNICEF will continue to support access to drinking water for the most vulnerable communities, and a community-based self-funded sustainability programme, also covering issues of water safety, will be established. To promote appropriate hygiene practices, UNICEF will support improved WASH facilities in health centres and schools.

Education and adolescent development

33. The *education and adolescent development* programme component aims to ensure more children and adolescents learn through formal and non-formal education, in an environment that fosters their integration into social and economic life, with a particular focus on disadvantaged groups and out-of-school children. This will contribute to a reduction in the number of out-of-school children and dropouts. UNICEF, as sector lead in the Global Partnership for Education, will leverage other partners' contributions in support of the Education Action Plan 2017-2019. A mix of implementation strategies will be used,

including technical support for policy development, piloting of innovative approaches for equitable access, and life skills and citizenship education.

34. To accelerate equitable access to education, UNICEF will support public and community-based ECE. Technical assistance will be provided for the development of a national policy on ECE, covering formal and community-based education. This will be part of an intersectoral package of ECD interventions, including the promotion of health- and hygiene-related KFPs and positive parenting practices on non-violent discipline and prevention of abuse through parenting sessions at preschools and community development centres. UNICEF will support plans by the Government to open at least one preschool class in every rural primary school.

35. At primary level, UNICEF will support the Government to develop a non-formal education curriculum that will enable excluded children to transition to the formal education system. In collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the programme will support education provision in refugee camps through a curriculum adapted for refugee children from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen. Girls' access to and retention in lower secondary school will be promoted in communities and schools through facilitated dialogues. To develop adolescents' ability to better protect themselves from trafficking, HIV and other health risks, UNICEF will support a non-formal education programme for adolescents in the areas with high HIV prevalence. Partnerships with CSOs will be developed to support the establishment of adolescent-friendly services in community development centres, NGOs and government institutions.

36. UNICEF will support the development of school-based curricula for life skills and citizenship education. The life skills component will also address general learning skills. Support will also be provided for the establishment of a pool of national trainers on inclusive education for children with special needs and support the implementation of the national strategy for their protection.

37. To strengthen sector management and coordination, UNICEF will support training of school management committees and stakeholders to generate data on the participation of refugees and asylum seekers, nomadic and migrant children and children with special needs in the formal and non-formal education systems. As chair of the education sector group, UNICEF will mobilize all partners to participate in the government's sector review and development of the new education plan.

Child protection and social inclusion

38. The *child protection and social inclusion* programme component aims to ensure that the most vulnerable children and adolescents are protected from violence, exploitation and abuse and have equitable access to child and social protection services, with a focus on disadvantaged regions. Implementation strategies will include behaviour change communication around positive social norms, beliefs and practices; development of a workforce to deliver both social protection and child protection services; modelling of service delivery for a child-friendly justice system; and evidence generation to support child-sensitive social protection programmes.

39. The prevention of and response to cases of child exploitation and abuse will be used as the entry point for child protection systems strengthening. The systems will also address prevention and response mechanisms related to trafficking among boys and girls. UNICEF will provide technical assistance for the development of by-laws for the Child Protection

Code, update of legislation on birth registration, and operationalization of laws and policies to protect children from violence and exploitation.

40. UNICEF will provide technical assistance to the Government to develop a strategy on preventing and responding to violence against children. Similar support will be provided for the development of guidelines and protocols for the identification and referral of vulnerable children, case management and training of social workers on the implementation of child protection and child-sensitive social protection interventions. These efforts will build the capacity of frontline workers in multiple sectors (including health and education) to identify victims and refer them to appropriate services. Linkages to the education sector will include teacher training and positive parenting sessions. UNICEF will model approaches to expand access to a protective child-friendly justice system that is aligned with international standards. In partnership with the International Organization for Migration, a mechanism will be developed to facilitate voluntary repatriation and family reunification of unaccompanied children on the move.

41. To enhance community engagement on the abandonment of FGM/C and elimination of child marriage, UNICEF will support community dialogues, media campaigns and capacity strengthening of community management committees and adolescent groups to promote shifts in social norms and attitudes, along with individual behavioural change. As part of the United Nations Population Fund-UNICEF Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting, assistance will be provided to the Government and CSOs to accelerate the abandonment of the practice.

42. UNICEF will work with partners, including WFP and the World Bank, to provide technical support to the development of the country's first national social protection strategy, which will include provisions to accompany cash transfers with the promotion of KFPs. In parallel, UNICEF will provide technical assistance for the development of a social service workforce that will deliver child and social protection interventions. Additionally, technical support will be provided to generate evidence on multidimensional poverty among children, to inform social protection programmes and the development of a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system. UNICEF will build the skills of staff in key government departments to conduct analyses of trends in child-sensitive budget allocations.

Programme effectiveness

43. The *programme effectiveness* component will ensure efficient planning, management, coordination and monitoring of the country programme. It will ensure that cross-sectoral interventions on gender; emergency preparedness and response; accountability to affected populations; social and behaviour change; evidence generation; communication; policy advocacy; and monitoring and evaluation are operationalized. Achieving the programmatic outcomes will require strong coordination among different programme areas, in particular for thematic and geographic convergence around the first 1,000 days approach, integrated ECD and adolescent development.

Summary budget table

Programme component	*(In thousands of United States dollars)*		
	Regular resources	*Other resources*	*Total*
Child survival and development	2 301	8 775	11 076
Education and adolescent development	1 445	5 655	7 100
Child protection and social inclusion	857	3 120	3 977
Programme effectiveness	1 132	1 950	3 082
Total	**5 735**	**19 500**	**25 235**

Programme and risk management

44. The country programme of cooperation is coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The UNDAF, 2018-2022, to which the country programme contributes, will be governed through inter-agency and governmental structures, reporting to the Government/United Nations UNDAF steering committee and the United Nations country team.

45. UNICEF will prioritize the management of risks related to natural hazards, including increasingly frequent droughts that threaten rural livelihoods and accelerate rural-urban migration. This, in turn, could affect programme results in terms of water scarcity and insecurity, the nutritional status of children and the functioning of already overstretched services. Instability and drought in neighbouring countries may lead to cross-border population movements and put further pressure on social services. UNICEF and partners will continue to closely monitor risks through early warning systems, including for epidemic outbreaks, and make efforts to ensure uninterrupted availability of basic social services and supplies to vulnerable children and their families.

46. UNICEF Djibouti has experienced a gradual decline in donor support, due to the country's lower middle-income status and the diversion of resources to ongoing emergencies. UNICEF will strengthen relationships with traditional donors and will also seek partnerships with non-traditional donors. Additionally, UNICEF will work towards leveraging public finance and funding by international financial institutions in support of hard-to-reach and disadvantaged populations.

47. This CPD outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at the country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

Monitoring and evaluation

48. The indicators in the results and resources framework and the costed evaluation plan will form the basis for monitoring and evaluating the country programme. Progress against planned results will be monitored through regular field visits, and mid/end-year reviews

that will enable UNICEF and its partners to jointly identify bottlenecks and make programmatic adjustments.

49. UNICEF will contribute to national household surveys, including the Demographic and Health Survey/Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (DHS/MICS), 2021-2022 and a knowledge, attitudes and practices study (2018), and support secondary analysis to monitor child deprivations. Administrative data systems will be strengthened to generate quality data, including on progress against the country programme results. To ensure emergency preparedness, the office will closely monitor information from the Early Warning Early Action mechanism.

50. To inform decision-making on programme design and strengthen accountability, three evaluations will be conducted, looking at the education programme, the first 1,000 days approach and the integrated promotion of KFPs. UNICEF will continue to be an active member of the monitoring and evaluation group of the United Nations system in Djibouti. Partnerships with the Department of Statistics and Demographic Studies, the University of Djibouti, the Centre for Research and Development and CSOs will strengthen national capacities in monitoring and evaluation.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Djibouti – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2018-2022

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 1-41

National priorities: SCAPE (2015-2019), goals 3, 5-8 and 10

UNDAF outcomes involving UNICEF: Strengthening social services and human capital development; Promoting good governance and responsive institutions; Building resilience and promoting equitable regional development.

Outcome indicators measuring change that includes UNICEF contribution
Gross enrolment rate; Existence of a learning assessment system at national level; Life expectancy; Existence of national policies for the protection of vulnerable populations, including migrants, unaccompanied minors and refugees ; Percentage of the population with access to social protection measures.

Related draft UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 Goal Areas: [1] 1-5

Outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome (regular resources (RR); other resources (OR)) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
1. By 2022, newborns, children under-five, adolescents, and pregnant and lactating women, increasingly utilize quality health, nutrition HIV and WASH services and families adopt healthy and hygienic behaviours	Percentage of children <1 year receiving DTP-3 vaccine at national level B (2014): 78% T: >92%	DHS/National Immunization Coverage Survey	1. The health system has improved capacity to provide a package of high-impact health interventions equitably for mothers, children and adolescents. 2. Families and communities in targeted areas have improved knowledge to support the adoption of healthy and hygienic	Ministry of Health, Department of Statistics and Demographic Studies, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of	2 301	8 775	11 076
	Percentage of births delivered in a health facility B (2012): 87% T: 92%	DHS					

[1] The final version will be presented to the UNICEF Executive Board for approval at its second regular session of 2017.

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					RR	*OR*	*Total*
and practices, including during emergencies	Percentage of pregnant women living with HIV who received antiretroviral medicines to reduce the risk of mother-to-child transmission of HIV B (2016): 31% T: 90%	Global AIDS Response Progress Report	behaviours, and to seek appropriate care for children, adolescents, and pregnant and lactating women 3. Nutrition stakeholders have improved capacities to provide quality promotional and preventive interventions to children (0-23 months), adolescent girls, and pregnant and lactating women in rural and peri-urban areas, particularly those affected by food insecurity 4. Health facilities at national, regional and local levels have improved capacities to provide quality treatment to children (6-59 months) affected by SAM, particularly in the areas affected by food insecurity 5. National, regional and local authorities have improved capacities to develop, implement and monitor policies and strategies to ensure sustainable access to WASH for rural and peri-urban populations 6. Basic water services and sanitation facilities are continuously available for children and their families living in areas at risk of food insecurity	Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock and Water Resources, United Nations agencies, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), European Union, World Bank, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the Global Fund			
	Percentage of girls and boys aged 6-59 months admitted for SAM treatment who recovered Girls B (2016): 95% T: >95% Boys B (2016): 93% T: >95%	SMART/DHS					
	Proportion of the population using basic drinking water services Urban B (2015): 97% T: 98% Rural B (2015): 65% T: 74%	Enquête Djiboutienne auprès des Ménages (EDAM) – Djibouti Living Standards Measurement Survey/Joint Monitoring Programme					
2. By 2022, children and	Gross enrolment ratio in pre-	Ministry of	1. The education system has	Ministry of	1 445	5 655	7 100

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adolescents, including those in disadvantaged areas and/or affected by emergencies, are increasingly attending formal and non-formal education in an environment that promotes the acquisition of skills for their integration into social and economic life	primary education B (2016): 7.3% Girls: 7.3% Boys: 7.3% T (2020): 18.4% Girls: 18.2 % Boys: 18.6%	Education	improved capacities to provide children (3-15 years) with equitable access to formal and non-formal education, including those in rural areas, nomads, children with special needs, refugees and children affected by displacement 2. The education system has improved capacity to provide quality learning to children and adolescents 3. The education system at national and school levels has strengthened capacities for coordination and management	Education, Ministry of Women and Families, State Secretariat for Youth and Sports, State Secretariat for Social Affairs, State Secretariat for Combatting HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis, United Nations agencies, World Bank, USAID, Education sector Group			
	Gross enrolment ratio in primary education B (2016): 81.4% Girls: 76.7% Boys: 85.9% T: 91.7% Girls: 86.6% Boys: 89.3%						
	Lower secondary completion rate B (2016): 47.6% Girls: 44.4% Boys: 50.6% T: 60% Girls: 60% Boys: 60%						
	Percentage of children at the end of primary education achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in core subjects B (2009/10): Mathematics: 50% French 40% T: Mathematics: 75% French 75%						

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					RR	*OR*	*Total*
3. By 2022, the most vulnerable children and adolescents in disadvantaged regions and/or in an emergency situation benefit from strengthened and comprehensive child protection and social protection systems, and families and communities protect children from violence	Prevalence of FGM/C among girls (0-9 years) B (2012): 29.3% T: 21%	DHS	1. The child protection system has improved capacity to prevent and respond to violence against children, including in emergencies 2. Families and parents in targeted areas have improved knowledge and capacities to prevent and protect children from violence and discrimination 3. National stakeholders have strengthened capacities to develop, implement and monitor a national child sensitive social protection strategy that reflects the needs of vulnerable children	Ministry of Women and Families, State Secretariat for Social Affairs, Ministry of Justice and Penitentiary Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Decentralization, Ministry of Muslim Affairs, Culture and Waqfs, United Nations agencies, World Bank, European Union	857	3 120	3 977
	Percentage of children 1-14 years who have experienced violent disciplinary practices by an adult member of the household during the past month B (2012): 38% (2-14 years) T: 25%	DHS					
	Percentage of children in conflict with the law who benefit from alternative measures to detention B (2016): 0 T: 60%	Information System of Ministry of the Interior					
	Number of children covered by social protection systems B (2016): 5 097 T: 69 047 (Girls: 35 007 Boys: 34 040)	State Secretary for Social Affairs annual report					
4. The country programme is efficiently designed, coordinated, managed and supported to meet quality programming standards in achieving results for children	Percentage of management and programme priority indicators meeting scorecard benchmarks B: 90% T: 100%	Dashboard	1. UNICEF staff and partners are provided guidance, tools and resources to effectively design and manage programmes 2. UNICEF staff and partners are provided guidance, tools and resources to effectively plan and monitor programmes 3. UNICEF staff and partners are	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	1 132	1 950	3 082
	Percentage of evaluation reports with management response	Insight					

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					RR	*OR*	*Total*
	B (2017): 100% T: 100%		provided tools, guidance and resources for effective advocacy and partnerships on children's rights issues with stakeholders				
Total resources					**5 735**	**19 500**	**25 235**